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## BBC likely to lose live Test matches to satellite television

**By Raymond Snoddy**  
MEDIA EDITOR

ENGLAND cricket Test matches could disappear from the BBC after more than 50 years of live coverage. Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, will tell the House of Commons today that he is to take Test cricket off the "crown jewels" list of sports events protected for terrestrial television, and granted the England and Wales Cricket Board the right to sell exclusive rights to the highest bidder.

The decision is potentially a huge blow to the BBC, which has traditionally covered domestic Test matches live every summer. The decision is, moreover, likely to cause outrage among many viewers who may be able to see Test cricket in future only if they have satellite or cable television.

In deciding to throw the Test matches open to bidding, Mr Smith had broadly followed the recommendations of the Gordon Committee set up to look at the future of listed events.

The current list includes such national sporting events as the FA Cup final, Wimbledon finals weekend, the Olympics, the Scottish Cup final, in Scotland only, and the Grand National.

Lord Gordon, the founder of the Scottish Radio Group, the Glasgow-based commercial radio company, looked in detail at the list of potential events to see whether it should be increased, reduced or stay the same.

His committee recommended that in future there should be an A list of events that have to appear on terrestrial television and a B list of events that can appear live on satellite but which also have to be made available soon after the event to terrestrial broadcasters. This can be "as live" coverage, starting an hour after the event, or highlights for broadcast later.

The committee recommended that the A list should stay basically the same, with the exception of domestic Test matches which move to the B list.

The England and Wales Cricket Board has been lobbying for some time for the ability to sell rights to the highest bidder. "The cricket authorities have argued that, unlike other sports, they have been starved of the cash that television rights could bring."

The decision means that satellite broadcasters such as BSkyB — a venture in which News International, the parent company of *The Times*, has a 40 per cent stake — will be able to bid for exclusive Test match rights in future. It is not clear, however, whether Sky will want to bid for all of the Test matches or only for some.

The Independent Television Commission, the regulatory body for commercial television, will be given the job of drawing up a formal code of practice that will govern how broadcasters operate both the A and B list. It is possible that there may be some additions to the A list, such as a number of European championships and other events.

In future contracts, satellite broadcasters will have the right to match terrestrial coverage of A list events. They simply will not have the right to carry them both live and exclusively.

Cricket, pages 48-49

## £8 a quarter off bills predicted

# Coal rescue 'will cut price of electricity'

**By Philip Webster and Christine Buckley**

LOWER electricity bills will be promised by Margaret Beckett today as she announces the Government's long-awaited rescue proposals for the coal industry.

The President of the Board of Trade will outline plans to tackle price fixing with a wholesale reform of the electricity "pool" through which power suppliers and producers effectively determine prices.

And she will demand that the big three generators — National Power, PowerGen and Eastern — "divest" themselves of some of their coal-fired stations to other generators, promoting greater competition and bringing down prices.

It appears that the Government will rely initially on voluntary sales, even though only PowerGen is ready to go along with the idea. Ministers believe that the electricity regulator, Professor Stephen Littlechild, has powers to enforce their wishes, but Mrs Beckett will also raise the possibility of legislation to push them through.

Mrs Beckett will not say today by how much she expects prices to fall, but senior ministers suggested that predictions of a 10 per cent cut were reasonable. That would mean a saving of £8 a quarter on the average domestic bill.

Under present procedures the generators can hold back on their coal-fired production, gas-fired stations will be disappointed, although there will still be planning curbs on building such stations. The Government could have been taken to court on anti-competitive grounds and, in any case, it welcomes the new jobs that extra gas plants will create.

The Prime Minister, who intervened to kill off a series of "quick-fix" ideas to tide over the mining industry, wanted to avoid being accused of an "Old Labour" interventionist solution. And a minister at the centre of the discussions described the proposed reforms as a "New Labour, third way" solution that would give the industry the chance of long-term survival.

The minister said that changes to the complicated system under which nuclear, gas and power stations go to the Electricity Trading Pool and bid to supply would create "more space" for coal-burn power stations. "Consumers are being ripped off under the existing pool," he said.

No new deals for the generators to buy coal will be announced today. There will instead be a lengthy period of consultation, which will further extend the uncertainty for RJB. Talks will continue next week between RJB and the three big generators over new contracts for coal after the existing emergency arrangements expire at the end of this month.

Labour MPs from mining areas who had hoped for an extension of the six-month moratorium on building new



Beckett: legislation if negotiations fail

reducing demand for coal and artificially inflating prices for gas. And with rival suppliers able to undercut coal, there have been claims that a third of Britain's remaining 24 pits could face closure, with the potential loss of thousands of the 12,000 mining jobs.

Ministers will make plain today that they are not bailing out the industry, throwing it a lifeline or offering subsidies — but that they are "derigging" the market. "We are giving the industry a level playing field but there are no special favours for coal here," a minister said last night. He added that RJB Mining, the biggest coal producer, might not like it, but would have to put up with it.

Labour MPs from mining areas who had hoped for an extension of the six-month moratorium on building new



Out but not down: Rusedski leaves Wimbledon — "I gave it a go," he said

## Rusedski pulls out after his coach faults him

**By John Goodbody, Deborah Colquhoun and Peter Foster**

GREG RUSEDSKI has been dropped by his coach because of a "total breakdown of communication" over the ankle injury which forced the British number one to withdraw from the Wimbledon Championships yesterday.

The decision by Tony Pickard, a former Davis Cup captain, leaves Rusedski, the world's fastest server, without a trusted mentor. The BBC Sports Personality of 1997, retired from his first round match in which he tried to overcome qualifier Mark Draper, despite being clearly hampered by the damaged ligaments he sustained at Queen's Club in the run up to the Championships.

Announcing his decision to pull out of this year's Wimbledon, the Number 4 seed criticised Pickard for failing to support him. "Just because I get this injury and it happens to be Wimbledon time and I decide to give it a go does not give a person a reason to make that choice. I guess that shows a person's true colours."

Pickard, whose former charges include the two-time Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden, said that on Thursday and Friday of last week Rusedski had disappeared without saying where he was. "At this level unless there is complete trust it stops working."

He described watching Rusedski battle with his injury on court as heart-rending. "I hope he's OK."

Meanwhile Tim Henman, Britain's number two defeated David Naiman, by 3 sets to 1.

But the televising of his match on BBC upset many viewers who protested that showing the tennis and dumping the World Cup clash between France and Denmark was taking patriotism too far.

Simon Barnes, page 50  
Rusedski out, page 56



"Is that the BBC? I'm just phoning up to congratulate you"

## Guns and grenades found in raids on German thugs

**FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN**

GERMAN police yesterday launched dawn raids on known neo-Nazi sympathisers and seized a large hoard of hand grenades, landmines and automatic weapons.

The swoop came shortly before politicians, including Manfred Kanther, the Interior Minister, promised a crackdown on all links between neo-Nazis and soccer hooliganism. "Violent crime is violent crime and must be punished as such, whether it comes from Left or from Right, whether it is committed by Germans or foreigners, at home or abroad," he told parliament in a session summoned to discuss the near-fatal attack by German hooligans on a French policeman.

The Agency for the Protection of the Constitution, the German equivalent of the Special Branch, has noted that far right groups have been increasingly active on the small arms market, amassing private arsenals. The raids yesterday were conducted in Bavaria and the Rhineland Palatinate. More than 300 police officers were involved. Three men were detained.

The timing is important because another outburst of soccer violence is expected tomorrow when England face Colombia in Lens in north-eastern France. Both French and German sources believe that German hooligans are preparing to attack England fans in Lens as they gather to watch the match.

German border troops will be put on alert this afternoon. Vehicles will be checked.

In yesterday's matches France beat Denmark 2-1, and South Africa and Saudi Arabia drew 2-2. France and Denmark qualify for the second round. Paraguay beat Nigeria 3-1, and Spain beat Bulgaria 6-1. Nigeria and Paraguay qualify.

□ The warmth with which the Tartan Army was viewed in France was demonstrated yesterday by a thank-you message sent to fans via a Scottish national tabloid newspaper.

Residents in Bordeaux took out a full-page advertisement in the *Daily Record*, declaring: "Bordeaux wishes to thank all the Scottish supporters and say 'well done! We will never forget your joie de vivre, the way you know how to have a good time and your sense of fair play. Come back soon. We miss you already!"

World Cup, pages 5, 51-54, 56

## BBC World Cup stolen

**BY STEWART TENDLER**  
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BBC executives have called in the police to investigate the theft of a £1.250 replica of the World Cup used in television coverage of the competition.

The gold-covered replica was rented for £93 a week from a West London firm of prop hirers and kept under special security arrangements. It was used to design graphics and logos for screening during the World Cup, but it vanished as it was due to be returned — and the loss was not spotted for several weeks.

In early June the BBC arranged for the cup to be returned by courier, but it did not arrive at the hire firm. The company assumed the BBC was renting it for a longer period. An invoice was eventually sent and it was then the BBC realised that it was lost.

Desmond Lynam with the £1,250 Cup



Desmond Lynam with the £1,250 Cup

## Blair denies switch over euro policy

**By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent**

TONY BLAIR made clear yesterday that he would not shift from his policy on the European single currency in spite of a scathing editorial in yesterday's *Sun* condemning Labour's stance.

The Prime Minister stuck to the line outlined by Gordon Brown, his Chancellor, last autumn that Britain would enter the European economic and monetary union if it was in the national interest.

Mr Blair noticeably did not use the enthusiastic pro-single currency rhetoric that he employed when addressing European leaders at the summit in Cardiff this month.

Mr Blair was challenged at Question Time in the Commons over the editorial in *The Sun* that asked whether Mr Blair is "the most dangerous man in Britain" because of his EMU policy. The Prime Minister told MPs that the decision, which would be put to a referendum, would be based on whether it was good for jobs, industry and investment. "Newspapers are entitled to their view but we govern in the national interest."

The *Sun* claimed that the Government had subtly shift-

## Ulster bomb

A boy aged 15 was injured when dissident republicans bombed a village in Co Armagh on the eve of today's elections. Page 14

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# Diana memorials 'reflect her care and compassion'

Daniel McGrory reports on five schemes unveiled by the Chancellor

THE life and work of Diana, Princess of Wales, will be commemorated in five ways, Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, disclosed yesterday.

From 10,000 ideas submitted by the public, the memorial committee decided on "Diana nurses" to care for sick children, an award for young people, a £5 coin, a memorial garden at her home and a walk through London parks.

Mr Brown, who chairs the committee, promised further memorials, although a statue of the Princess is unlikely ever to be approved. The committee, which includes Lady Sarah McCorquodale, the Princess's sister, and Paul Burrell, her butler, also ruled out a "Diana day" public holiday or a medal to be added to the honours system.

Mr Brown said: "This is not just a way to commemorate the life of Diana but to continue much of the work she

had started. We want to reflect her commitment to care, her compassion and her interest in public service."

Yesterday's long awaited official announcement was further delayed while Mr Brown explained the schemes to the Princess's brother, Earl Spencer, at No 11 Downing Street.

There are still few precise details about any of the schemes. Nor has the Treasury said how much the projects, which are being paid for by the taxpayer, will cost.

However, extra money will be put into the health and education budgets for the community nursing scheme and the young achievers award. A senior Treasury source said: "We can't say how much but I can't believe anybody will want to oppose such ideas, no matter what the additional cost to public spending." Fierce opposition is expected

to the idea of a £10 million, 16-acre "modern classical" garden with a children's playground in front of Kensington Palace. Although Mr Brown yesterday pledged "full consultation" with local residents, committee members said the plan was certain to go ahead.

Janet Mayhew of the Kensington Society said last night: "The idea of the People's Princess has gone too far. This is appealing the British public's appetite at the expense of the whole borough."

The committee argued that the Princess's former home remains the obvious focus for admirers. Around 100 bouquets are left every week at the gates.

To limit the expected crush of traffic, the committee supports the idea of a three-mile Diana Memorial Walk that will shadow much of the route of her funeral procession. Lord Attenborough, a mem-

ber of the committee, said: "We hope to calm local concerns but it's going to be inevitable."

The Queen has approved the idea of a £5 coin which will be legal tender and should be minted in time for the anniversary of the Princess's birthday on July 1 next year.

Health Department officials are working on plans for a new nursing scheme that will specialise in caring for seriously ill children in their homes. A spokesman said: "We will suggest by the end of the summer how many we think we need and see if the money is there to pay for it."

The Diana award will be open to young people aged from 11 to 18 at the country's 5,500 schools. It will be given for community service or overcoming personal problems. The Chancellor said: "Schools will be encouraged to look for pupils who have given something to the community of their own free will and usually on their own initiative."

The committee insisted this was not an attempt to overshadow existing youth schemes. It said: "The award would complement and not displace existing awards, for example, the Philip Lawrence Awards for activities against crime, lawlessness and promoting community safety and racial harmony, or the Duke of Edinburgh's Award service section where participants are required to train for and give service to others."

The committee, which also includes the Lord Chamberlain, Lord Camoys, representing the Royal Household, Baroness Chalker, Rosa Monckton, the Princess's best friend, Anthony Julius, her lawyer, Jane Tewson, who founded the charity Comic Relief, and Diane Louise Jordan, former *Blue Peter* presenter, will meet in the autumn to agree future schemes.

Photograph, page 28



Committee members Paul Burrell and Lady Sarah McCorquodale yesterday

## Coin will not make fortunes

THE Royal Mint expects most people to hoard the £5 Diana coin. "It is unlikely that many will pay for their shopping with them. They are really for people to collect," a spokesman said.

The Mint said, however, that it would never become an investment. The Treasury said there would be enough £5 coins minted to "meet public demand for years to come". The Duke of Edinburgh

heads the committee that will decide on the design of the coin. The Queen's head will be on the front, and it is likely that the Princess's face will be on the reverse. It is up to the Duke to choose the most appropriate likeness.

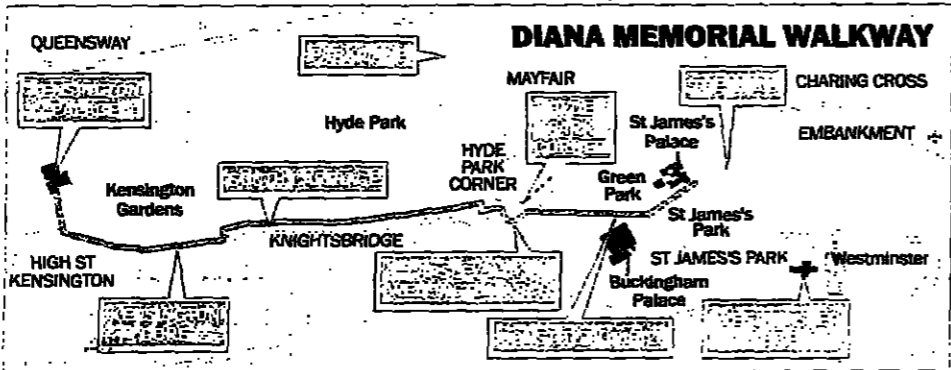
The coin should be available by July 1 next year, with a gold crown, costing about £600, and a silver crown, costing £30, which will be of the same design. A Royal

Mint spokesman said: "No one should buy these as investments: they are just to enjoy."

The Mint said that the Princess would be the first "minor royal" to be honoured with a coin that would be in common use as legal tender. There have been crowns minted for Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and one will mark the Prince of Wales's 50th birthday in November.



The memorial walk through London's parks would finish at Kensington Palace



## Mother dies after advert finds home for twins

By Helen Johnstone

A SINGLE mother who helped to select a new family for her ten-year-old twins after discovering that she was terminally ill with cancer has died at her Oxford home with the children by her side.

Tobi Mills, 43, died on Tuesday night after being seriously ill for several weeks. Her children, Lauren and Ashton, were said yesterday to be "doing well in the circumstances".

She selected a single mother with two children after her twins appeared in February for a replacement mother. The advertisement said: "Kids and dog for hire. Life term contract. Sad gits need not apply."

The successful applicant, from the Oxford area, is fostering the twins. They have spent recent weeks between their new family and their dying mother. The family said yesterday that one of Ms Mills's last wishes was that the children be given time and space to grieve.

## Foster father tells of panic over first aid

By Joanna Bale

THE foster father of the murdered schoolgirl Billie-Jo Jenkins told a court yesterday that he was too "panicked" to give her first aid despite believing she was still alive when he found her.

Sion Jenkins, a former deputy headmaster, admitted that he did not call an ambulance immediately or make checks to find out if she was alive. Instead, he went to comfort his two natural daughters who were upset after having discovered Billie-Jo, 13, lying in a pool of blood on the patio of their home in Hastings, East Sussex.

Mr Jenkins, who denies bludgeoning her with a heavy metal tent peg in February last year, told Lewes Crown Court: "I found Billie and I wanted to get the girls out of the room... I put the girls into the playroom and they were distraught. I didn't feel that I wanted to leave them."

Richard Pratt, QC, cross-examining Mr Jenkins, asked: "Whatever concerns you may have had about your two

daughters, surely it was nothing compared to the concerns you should have had for Billie-Jo?" Mr Jenkins replied: "I did have concerns. You don't have any idea of what it was like in that house when I returned."

The court was told that as he was comforting Annie, 12, and Lottie, 10, the telephone rang. Mr Jenkins, 40, described how he picked up the receiver, slammed it down, then adjusted a dial on the back to turn it off. Instead of dialling 999, he went back to look at Billie-Jo for a second time.

In his police statement, read in court, he said: "I thought initially of trying to render mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, but she was totally covered in blood. I was absolutely horrified with her injuries."

The court was told that when Mr Jenkins eventually dialled 999 and he was asked by the operator if Billie-Jo was breathing, he replied: "I don't know. I haven't looked."

He said: "I can't remember specifically going down to Billie and looking for breath-

ing... When I found Billie my whole world collapsed and I do not know if I saw breathing. I have no recollection."

He said that emotionally he was in turmoil and whether she was breathing had not seemed the most important thing. The court was told that Mr Jenkins also ignored instructions given by the 999 operator to put Billie-Jo in the recovery position.

Later that evening he twice refused to put on his fleece jacket that he had been wearing earlier, despite it being a freezing February night. It was later found to have dozens of tiny splashes of Billie-Jo's blood on it. Asked why he wanted to leave the jacket behind, Mr Jenkins said: "I presume it was because I was hot and flustered."

Duncan MacKirdy, a forensic scientist for the defence, told the court that the blood splashes on Mr Jenkins's clothes could have come from blood being exhaled through Billie-Jo's nose. The trial continues.

## Anthrax in sugar cube proves wartime plot

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

A RELIC found in the archives of a police museum in Norway has proved that Germany was prepared to use germ weapons during the First World War.

A sugar cube containing a phial of anthrax is all that remains of an attempt by a Swedish aristocrat, working under German orders, to poison horses and reindeer used to carry British arms across northern Norway to the Russians.

The cube was among 19 found in the luggage of Baron Otto Robert Karl von Rosen, who was arrested with two companions in Karajok, near the Finnish frontier, in January 1917.

Suspicious of a "hunting party" wandering around a remote area of northern Norway in winter, the police investigated and found that tins labelled "Swedish meat" in the baron's luggage contained dynamite.

They also found that the party had Russian, Finnish and Norwegian cash, a pistol, bottles of poison, maps of northern Finland, and the mysterious sugar cubes. Baron von Rosen was taken to Kristiania (now Oslo) for questioning.

When the curator of the Trondheim museum rediscovered two of the cubes with a label declaring them to contain anthrax, he immediately sent them to the Norwegian Defence Microbiological Institute in Oslo.

Anthrax is a bacterium fatal to animals and man which survives for many years in the form of spores. The Oslo laboratory passed the cubes, only one of which still contained a phial, to the Chemical and Biological Defence Establishment at Porton Down, Wiltshire. There, a team led by Richard Manchec tested to see if the phial did contain anthrax and if the spores were still viable. They report in *Nature* that the phial contained a brown fluid. Two tests, one chemical and the other genetic,



Baron von Rosen: plan to poison army horses

confirmed that the phial had indeed contained anthrax bacilli, though they were on the brink of extinction.

Three weeks after his arrest and after diplomatic pressure from Sweden, the baron was released and put on a train back to Stockholm. It is not clear if he ever managed to kill any animals.

## Children's nurses will start their work next year

By Daniel McGrory

THE first recruits to the teams of children's community nurses being set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, are expected to start work next year.

Health officials have been asked to recommend how many staff they will need to give palliative care to chronically sick children and home help to their families. Extra money will be given to the Department of Health to fund the scheme.

The idea was welcomed by the Royal College of Nursing. It is hoped that the scheme will alleviate the severe shortage of professionals caring for seriously ill children. Only half of health authorities in Britain can call on teams to help families with such children at home, according to the Association for Children with Life-Threatening or Terminal Conditions and Their Families. None at all are available in Northern Ireland.

The association said that only three areas had teams set up for terminally ill children, all of them in England. The team in Bath has two nurses, a paediatrician and a part-time clinical psychologist to care for 120 children.

Neither the team in Bath, nor the other two in Bristol or Chichester, can provide 24-hour care. Stella Elston, executive director of the association, said: "Families are caring round the clock by themselves with very little support."

She hoped the nurses would have the expertise to cover the variety of cases before them. They are likely to involve children with like cancer, cystic fibrosis and organ failures. She said that, for every 100,000 children, 50 would need this sort of care and another 50 were likely to need it in the future.

Christine Hancock, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, said the proposal "should lead to much-needed support for severely sick children and their families. Nurses at a paediatric conference last September felt that such a service would be a fitting memorial to Diana, Princess of Wales."




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Engla fans for a 24-h drink

Injured mother plea for

For local off peak call at

# England's fans face a 24-hour drink ban

FROM SUSAN BELL IN ARRAS

A 24-HOUR ban on the sale and public consumption of alcohol will take effect from 8am tomorrow in Lens, as thousands of England fans descend on the northern French town for the crucial World Cup match against Colombia.

An extra 500 police officers have been drafted in to help the 700 who were originally responsible for security at the game. The 1,200 officers will be joined by 100 plainclothes policemen who will mingle with supporters.

Between 20,000 and 30,000 England fans are expected in the area tomorrow, at least 10,000 of whom do not have tickets.

There are fears that German hooligans have remained in the Lens area after Sunday's match against Yugoslavia and may attack the England fans tomorrow. *Le Monde* reported yesterday that French intelligence officers had information that German hooligans were planning to target the English at the game.

However, Daniel Cadoux, the *prefet*, or chief administrative officer, for the Pas de Calais region, dismissed such fears yesterday. He said: "I don't think the German troublemakers are crazy enough to come back to Lens after the arrest of the two German hooligans who are accused of being responsible for the attack on the French gendarme on Sunday."

M Cadoux also said that, if children were kept home from school and shopkeepers pulled



David Beckham and Teddy Sheringham relaxing at La Baule yesterday before the game against Colombia

down their shutters, as had been reported, "it would be the greatest possible victory for the hooligans."

He added that, if Lens became a city under siege, "it would present a deplorable image of our city and our country. We must try to remain open and welcoming. We must not be afraid of a few hundred English hooligans."

M Cadoux, who announced the alcohol ban yesterday, admitted that he could not stop fans buying alcohol else

where and taking it to Lens. However, he pledged that anyone found drinking in public in the town would be arrested and have their drinks confiscated.

Restaurant and cafe owners have been banned from giving customers who choose to sit outside anything containing metal, glass or porcelain which could be used as a weapon. Plastic cutlery, cups and paper plates will be used instead. Any establishment that defies the ban could be

closed down for eight days.

A spokesman for the police in Lens said that English hooligans did not appear to have the same "nasty streak" as their German counterparts. "We do not know whether the supporters will behave like they did in Marseille or like they did in Toulouse. In the meantime, we will be taking no chances and about 75 officers are joining us on a daily basis."

The spokesman said that the police had been caught

offguard by the organised nature of the German violence. "We do not believe the English supporters are comparable to the contingent of German hooligans who caused trouble on Sunday. We very much hope they continue to behave as they did in Toulouse."

M Cadoux said: "The town of Lens must try to maintain its party spirit despite everything that has happened."

World Cup, pages 51-54, 56

# Supporters left ticketless as firm ceases trading

BY ADRIAN LEE AND STEPHEN FARRELL

HUNDREDS of British football fans were left without tickets in France yesterday when a tour company ceased trading.

More than 300 supporters staying at three Club Med resorts were involved in angry exchanges with the owner of David Dryer Sports Tours after paying up to £3,000 for all-inclusive packages. They confronted Mr Dryer when he arrived at one of the sites, Club Aquarius, near Aix-en-Provence, and told about 100 fans that he had been let down by his ticket supplier.

A group of 45 fans who had expected to see Brazil play Norway in Marseilles discovered on arrival that they had no tickets and had to watch the game in a bar.

Fans who had not yet flown to France were among a stream of visitors to the fourth-floor offices of the company in Central London. These included Camden council's trading standards department, lawyers and an insolvency expert from Ian Franes Associates called in by Mr Dryer, 62, of

Chigwell, Essex. Mr Franes said the company was not in liquidation or receivership but had ceased trading. He said company figures showed 1,900 people had gone to France and up to 1,600 had tickets, leaving at least 300 short. "We are getting legal advice to assess what sort of claims people can make," he said.

The company arranged similar packages for the World Cup in 1990. "That was excellent," said Peter Norris, 50, from Ipswich, who paid more than £6,000 for tickets and accommodation for him and his wife. "Everyone is terribly disappointed. Some people were threatening physical violence but the mood is mainly one of resignation."

Mr Dryer last night blamed the failure of his usual sources — whom he refused to name — to supply promised tickets amid the "totally insane" worldwide demand for tickets. "We are so terribly, terribly sorry for what we have done to decent people who are not going to get what they paid for," he said.

# Injured officer's mother makes a plea for peace

FROM ADRIAN LEE IN LENS

THE mother of Daniel Nivel, the gendarme in a coma after being attacked in Lens by German hooligans, appealed to England fans yesterday not to cause further violence in the town.

As her son lay in hospital, Zelle Nivel said that she could not help hoping that her son would walk through the door. She added that he loved his job.

The attack has left M Nivel with permanent brain injuries. Each day his wife, Danielle, travels under police escort from the barracks where he was stationed to sit at his bedside.

The couple have two sons, aged 17 and 20. There were dreadful pictures of the senior sergeant lying on the ground in Lens on Sunday, with blood pouring from his head.

M Nivel, 44, comes from a large farming family and most of his ten brothers and sisters still live near Tollen, the village where he was born, about 25 miles southwest of Lille.

"Why did this have to happen to my son? Why, why?" his mother asked repeatedly yesterday. Tears streaming down her face, Mme Nivel recalled that she had last seen him a week ago when family members gathered for lunch. "It seems like he is still here. I can still hear the doors opening and closing behind him."

She had a message for England followers who will inundate Lens tomorrow for the match with Colombia: "Please don't cause trouble. My son was only doing his job — he only wanted to protect people like you."

Mme Nivel's husband Jean, who has stood to become mayor, was too upset to talk yesterday. Markus Warnecke, from Hanover, is being held in connection with the attack which took place before Germany's match against Yugoslavia.

In France last year 12 gendarmes died on duty. M Nivel was part of a mobile unit stationed in Arras and had previously served in Corsica. One villager in Tollen, where there are just a dozen houses and a small church, said: "You might expect an attack in Corsica, but in Lens..."

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Max Barber, aged 2 1/2

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FREE WITH THE SATURDAY TIMES

# GPs too quick to bar patients who complain

Ombudsman condemns doctors unwilling to address grievances about care. Ian Murray reports

FAMILY doctors who strike patients off their lists without telling them why are criticised by the Health Service Ombudsman in his annual report published today.

Michael Buckley found this was one of the main reasons why a record 2,600 people asked him to investigate complaints against their doctors.

In a case in the Wigan and Bolton area, a woman complained to her GP about advice given to her daughter about breastfeeding. The GP promptly removed three households from his list — the woman's, her daughter's and her son's. "While it was clear that the mutual trust between the daughter and the GP had broken down, the same could not be said for the other family members," Mr Buckley said.

In a case in Northumberland a GP threatened to remove a patient from his list for making what he believed was a vexatious complaint. "I considered a threat of this kind quite inappropriate in the circumstances," the report says.

In a case in Essex a woman

who was 32 weeks pregnant was removed from her GP's list without explanation. One GP in the practice later wrote to say that mutual trust had broken down. But the ombudsman said the practice had made no real attempt to deal with the issues before the decision.

In all cases the GPs apologised after the ombudsman's investigations. Mr Buckley said that the right of patients to complain must be inhibited by fear that as a consequence they would have to change doctor. "Unless that fear is removed the NHS complaints procedure in general practice and the value of it to both GPs and patients will be seriously undermined," he said.

He said he did not question the right of doctors to remove patients from their lists where

a relationship had irretrievably broken down. "However, it is a drastic step for a GP to decide to remove a patient. It can have long-term consequences — a patient may find it difficult to find another doctor willing to take him or her even in areas where such a move can usually be made without difficulty.

"The main problem is poor communication between doctors and their patients and sometimes between members of the medical profession itself," Mr Buckley said.

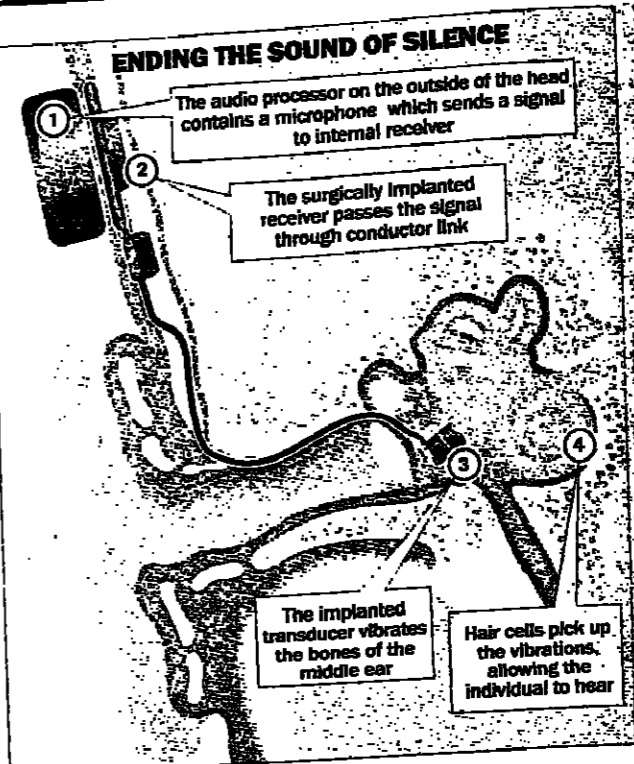
This is the second year in which the ombudsman has been charged with investigating GPs and clinical judgments by doctors. Although the vast majority of the 2,600 cases were sorted out at local level, Mr Buckley investigated 36 complaints including 27 against GPs, eight against

dentists and one against a pharmacist. Another 26 cases involving treatment in hospitals or health service clinics are still under investigation.

Among them is the care and treatment at birth of a baby which the family believe contributed to brain damage, and delays in arranging admission to a hospital of a patient who later died of meningitis.

Another complaint concerned the cancellation of an ultrasound investigation which would have led to early discovery of a cancer which proved fatal. The ombudsman has no role in investigating cases where a person can seek a solution in the courts.

"On the evidence I see, most complainants have no wish or intention to go to law and probably little prospect of significant financial recompense if they did," Mr Buckley said. "If it is clear that financial compensation or damages are the primary aim of the complaint then I will not investigate." His office was best suited for seeking an explanation where procedures appeared to have gone wrong.



## New aid helps deaf to pick up good vibrations

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A REVOLUTIONARY hearing aid that can be surgically implanted behind the ear has completed successful trials on five British patients.

The new device, called a soundbridge, takes sounds and converts them into mechanical vibrations inside the middle ear. Most hearing aids simply take sounds and make them louder. The vibrations are amplified by the device's electronics to make them stronger than the patient would normally get with sound transmitted through the ear canal across the eardrum.

Because the soundbridge is not located in the ear canal like a hearing aid many of the problems associated with them are eliminated. Apart from the discomfort involved, these include feedback and an electronic screeching noise, ear infections and a build up of earwax.

The soundbridge is divided into two components, an audio processor which remains outside the body and contains the microphone, the battery and the electronics to convert sound to a signal that is transmitted to the internal portion of the device. The audio processor is held on to the head with a magnet.

The internal portion consists of a receiver, conductor link and a transducer which transmits the vibrations to the bones of the middle ear in the same way sounds move them in people with no hearing difficulties.

The manufacturers are working on an improvement which will allow the entire device to be implanted, with the battery charged overnight by a small device held to the head by a magnet.

"It is an ingenious mechanical device which fulfils a dream I have had for 15 years to do away with hearing aids," said Fitzgerald O'Connor, the ear, nose and throat consultant surgeon at Guy's Hospital in South London, who has fitted three of the implants. The other two have been implanted in people in Birmingham.

Mr O'Connor said that the implant, which has just been given European Union approval for general use, could benefit one in five of the two million people with hearing difficulties in Britain. "At present these people cannot cope with wearing their hearing aids so they leave it at home in their top drawer," he said. "If you put your finger in your ear for 10 seconds you would realise just how irritating a hearing aid can be."

"If this works as we hope it is going to be dramatic for children. At present we have to keep changing the moulds for them and they are always pulling them off, and not wanting to wear them which means they don't develop speech or language."

The operation to install the implants makes use of three techniques currently used for correcting ear disorders. However the whole procedure is expensive, costing between £4,000 and £5,000 compared to £50 for an NHS-supplied hearing aid or £1,000 for the most sophisticated types on the market.

Body and Mind, page 22

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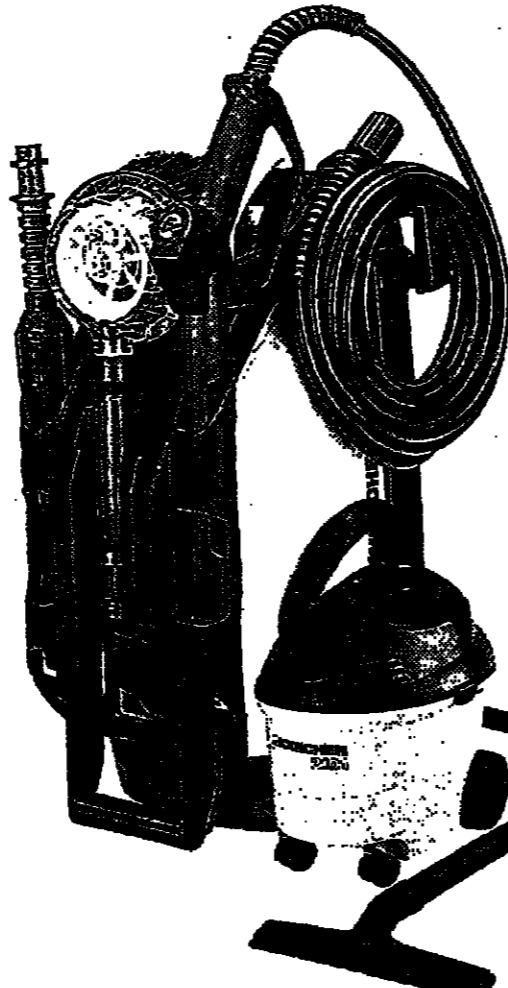


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## Dolphins inspire sound solution

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A TEAM of engineers inspired by dolphins hope to use sound to transmit video pictures and data through the murky depths of the North Sea.

The system has been developed by a team at the University of Newcastle to help robot submarines inspect and maintain oil rigs. It uses the frequency band favoured by dolphins and data transmission techniques developed for the Internet.

Animals have proved much better than humans at transmitting signals through water by sound. Low-frequency sound waves can travel huge distances through the ocean, but their low frequency means they cannot carry much information and the signal is easily corrupted by reflections from the sea floor.

The Newcastle team, led by Dr Oliver Hinton, says it has solved both problems, and can transmit data at up to 16,000 bits per second. "We believe this is ten times the rate our competitors can achieve," Dr Hinton told *New Scientist*.

The system uses receivers which pick up signals from different directions, identify the strongest, and remove distortion caused by echoes and relative movement between transmitter and receiver. The team has tested the system in Royal Quay docks in the Tyne and is now ready to try the open sea.

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Spain (Local)	011 34	011 34	011 34
Italy (Long Distance)	011 39	011 39	011 39
Italy (Local)	011 39	011 39	011 39
India (Long Distance)	011 91	011 91	011 91
India (Local)	011 91	011 91	011 91
China (Long Distance)	011 86	011 86	011 86
China (Local)	011 86	011 86	011 86
South Africa (Long Distance)	011 27	011 27	011 27
South Africa (Local)	011 27	011 27	011 27
South Korea (Long Distance)	011 82	011 82	011 82
South Korea (Local)	011 82	011 82	011 82
Indonesia (Long Distance)	011 62	011 62	011 62
Indonesia (Local)	011 62	011 62	011 62
Malaysia (Long Distance)	011 60	011 60	011 60
Malaysia (Local)	011 60	011 60	011 60
Philippines (Long Distance)	011 63	011 63	011 63
Philippines (Local)	011 63	011 63	011 63
Singapore (Long Distance)	011 65	011 65	011 65
Singapore (Local)	011 65	011 65	011 65
Thailand (Long Distance)	011 66	011 66	011 66
Thailand (Local)	011 66	011 66	011 66
Vietnam (Long Distance)	011 84	011 84	011 84
Vietnam (Local)	011 84	011 84	011 84
Hong Kong (Long Distance)	011 852	011 852	011 852
Hong Kong (Local)	011 852	011 852	011 852
Taiwan (Long Distance)	011 886	011 886	011 886
Taiwan (Local)	011 886	011 886	011 886

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# Secret burial let Robert the Bruce rest in peace

Rumours of Tartan Army crusaders surround early ceremony for King's heart, writes Shirley English

IT HAD been billed as the official reburial of the embalmed heart of the Scottish King Robert the Bruce, on the 654th anniversary of his victory over the English at Bannockburn in 1314.

But the crowds who turned up at Melrose Abbey in the Borders yesterday to witness the ancient relic being committed to the ground after languishing for almost two years in a laboratory in Edinburgh discovered that it had already been buried in secret two days earlier. The reason, it was rumoured, was that Historic Scotland, the Government's heritage agency, feared that had football fans known the real burial date of the lead casket, thought to contain the remains of the King who won independence for Scotland, they might have dug it up and whipped it off to France for luck in the World Cup clash against Morocco.

Scots have a record of removing national icons. The Stone of Scone was stolen from beneath the throne at Westminster Abbey by a group of young nationalists on



Robert the Bruce: left his heart to Crusaders

Christmas morning in 1950. Just a few weeks ago the Saltire marking the Bannockburn battlefield near Stirling was taken by the Tartan Army and a blanket with the message "Gone 2 France" was left in its place with a note promising to return it after the World Cup. The National Trust for Scotland is still waiting, although a postcard from the flag was received by the trust last week.

A spokesman for Historic Scotland explained: "We were

not actually anticipating that anyone would try to dig up the casket, but it is buried in such a way that it would be very difficult indeed for any unauthorised person to recover it."

The private burial on Monday, presided over by three Church of Scotland, Episcopalian and Roman Catholic clergymen, gave the ceremony the necessary dignity, he said. "These are human remains and we felt that they should be buried with dignity in private. It was never our intention for the burial to be part of the public ceremony, whatever people may have assumed."

All that was left for Donald Dewar, Scottish Secretary, to do at the official ceremony yesterday was unveil a plaque to mark the final resting place of the heart, which travelled thousands of miles braced as a gruesome talisman against the Moors during the 14th-century Crusades. A simple stone, engraved with the Saltire and the words "A noble heart may have none ease, gif freedom failye", taken from the medi-



A plaque marks the heart's reburial place. The private ceremony was intended to give dignity to the remains

eval poem *The Bruce*, was all that was available for the assembled crowd to see.

The last wish of Bruce, who died in 1329, was that his heart should be cut out, taken to the Crusades and then buried at Melrose, sixty miles from the rest of his remains, at Dunfermline Abbey.

The heart was rediscovered amid great excitement in August 1996 during excavations of the Chapter House at Melrose Abbey. A sealed lead casket, 10 inches long by 5.5

inches wide, was dug up by experts and taken to a laboratory for tests, including carbon dating of the casket which confirmed it was from around the 1300s.

It will remain a mystery as to whether the container actually holds the Scottish hero's heart. Historic Scotland emphasised at the time that the casket would not be opened and no attempt would be made to establish its true identity out of respect for human remains. Circumstan-

tial evidence, including its location and the fact that only hearts of important individuals, such as kings, were cut from their bodies for embalming, points to its authenticity.

The casket had been dug up once before in the 1920s and opened by archaeologists who found a mummified heart inside, before reburying it with an extra outer container for protection.

Mr Dewar said: "We cannot know for certain whether the casket buried here contains

the heart of Robert the Bruce. It doesn't carry a label. But in a sense it does not matter. The casket and the heart are symbols of the man."

In January there were protests from the Borders town at the delay in returning the heart to Melrose. Yesterday the community was delighted to welcome it home, particularly because the Bruce legend is forecast to promote a tourist boom at the abbey, which is already visited by 50,000 tourists each year.

## Five years for young road rage killer

By Lin Jenkins

A TEENAGE motorist who killed a driver in a "road rage" attack was detained for five years and banned from driving for six years yesterday. As Matthew Donaldson, 18, was led to the cells at the Old Bailey, his victim's family began a campaign for a mandatory life ban for drivers who kill.

Rick Caisely, 44, a parcel delivery manager, was killed on Boxing Day as he drove his brother-in-law home from a family gathering. He had been driving his company Peugeot at the speed limit in South Ruislip, West London, when Donaldson repeatedly flashed his lights from behind, urging him to go faster.

Mr Caisely stopped his car and walked back to Donaldson, who reversed and aimed for a gap by a traffic island. He hit Mr Caisely, who was thrown on to the bonnet, breaking the windscreen, and then into the path of an articulated lorry. He died immediately.

Judge Richard Hawkins, sending Donaldson, of Higher Denham, Buckinghamshire, to a young offender institution for causing death by dangerous driving, said: "The whole incident began because of your driving in an impatient manner."

Mr Caisely's widow, Maureen, said yesterday that the family's lives had been shattered, particularly those of their sons, aged nine and eight. "Charlie and Ricky will never have their daddy to laugh with, play with, to scold them, to care for them and to encourage them on their journey through life. We can only guess at what the long-term effects will be."

She and her husband's four sisters are to campaign for the lifetime driving ban: "People that exhibit aggression and loss of control behind the wheel should never be trusted to drive a car again."

## More birds in decline

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

NINE species of common British birds, including the willow tit and starling, should be added to a national danger list, wildlife experts said yesterday.

Populations of these species have fallen by more than half in 25 years, they claim. Surveys by volunteers with the British Trust for Ornithology, whose research is carried out on behalf of the Government's wildlife advisers, show that in 1996 and 1997 the continuing decline of many British birds have tipped nine into "high conservation concern".

The other seven that should be considered for the official

Red List are the lapwing, snipe, woodcock, lesser spotted woodpecker, grasshopper warbler, tree pipit and redpoll.

If approved by government advisers, they will join ten species whose populations have fallen by more than half over 25 years. They are the reed bunting, turtle dove, grey partridge, song thrush, linnet, bullfinch, skylark, corn bunting, spotted flycatcher and tree sparrow.

However, the trust believes there could be an argument for removing the linnet from the list because its numbers have since improved.

Andy Wilson, of the trust,

said yesterday that the declines were part of the general fall in bird populations as farming became more intensive. The increase in linnet numbers may be because they are one of the few species that can feed well on oilseed rape stubble, an expanding crop.

The common bird census and waterways bird survey indicate that, unless there are big changes in the common agricultural policy, more birds may soon join the Red List.

The census found there were significant changes in the populations of 20 species in 1997 with 17 falling and only three, the mute swan, black-



Starting: threatened

cap and chiffchaff growing. □ A fungus new to science may be behind the worldwide decline in frogs and toads. The fungus, found independently by researchers in America and Australia, coats the undersides and legs of amphibians and suffocates them. It was first identified in 1996 and has yet to be named.

## Rifkind upsets Quebecois

By Shirley English

SIR Malcolm Rifkind, the former Foreign Secretary, has come under fire for comparing separatists in Canada to the Scottish National Party.

Richard Guay, the London based Delegate-General of the Government in Quebec, has written to Sir Malcolm in protest at his "unwarranted

slur" against the province. Sir Malcolm, president of the Tories in Scotland, told the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party conference in Glasgow earlier this month that, if the SNP won control of the Scottish parliament, it would be "a cuckoo in the nest". He went on: "Like their fellow separatists in Quebec, they would use the parliament

to ferment resentment against our fellow citizens in England and Wales and sow discord in this island."

Yesterday it emerged that Mr Guay was distressed by the speech. In his letter he insisted that the province's National Assembly had never been used to stir resentment against fellow citizens in Canada or to sow discord.

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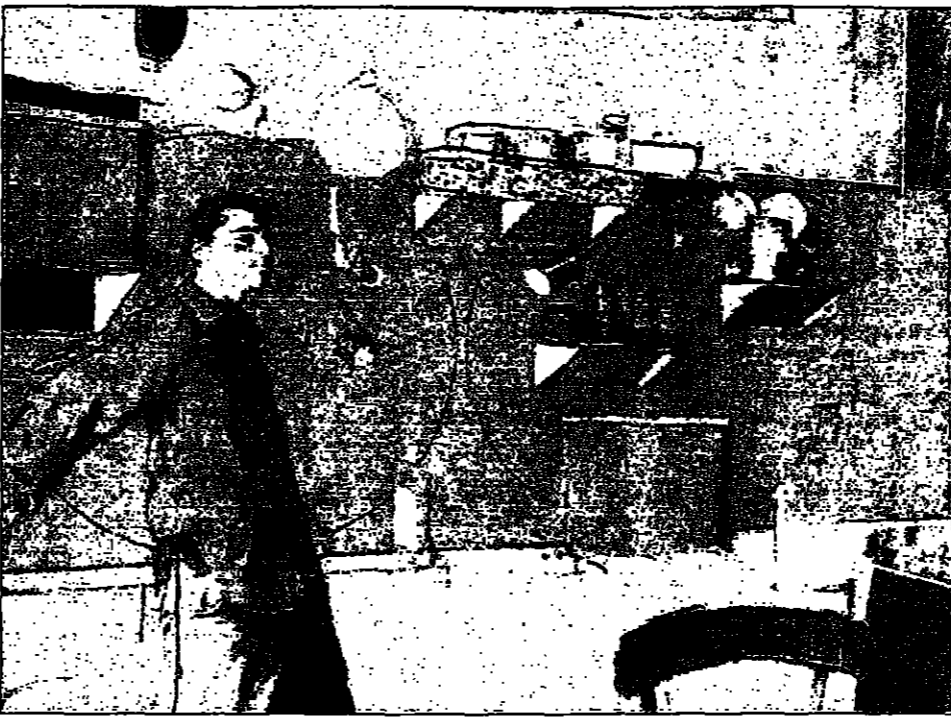
# Slade sets standard in national portrait prize

Graduate keeps up art school's recent winning streak, reports **Dalya Alberge**

ANOTHER graduate of the Slade School of Art has won the National Portrait Gallery's annual BP portrait award. As well as a cheque for £10,000, Thomas Watson, 27, wins a commission worth £3,000 to paint a portrait for the gallery. The gallery's director Charles Saumarez Smith, said that the Slade particularly excelled at the BP award: it produced the winner of this year's BP travel award, Stuart Pearson Wright; last year's overall winner, James Lloyd; and the 1995 winner, Isabel Myerscough. The most talented artists for the award tended to come out of the Slade or Glasgow School of Art, while those being recognised by the Tate Gallery's Turner Prize — conceptualists such as Damien Hirst and Rachel Whiteread — were products of Goldsmiths.



Second prize: *Self-portrait*, by Frances Borden



The winner: *Jude*, by Thomas Watson, who wins £10,000 and a £3,000 commission



Third prize: *A Space*, by Clive Smith

artists," he said. "Within our rules it's expected to be a painting from the life. That has meant we haven't had entries by conceptual artists, although we do try to be liberal in our interpretation of

what constitutes portraiture." The Slade and Glasgow were "maintaining a vigorous tradition of figurative art". Dr Saumarez Smith described Watson's submission as very strong. He said: "It is

not a conventional portrait... It is incredibly dominant... It stands out as a winner." Professor Bernard Cohen, director of the Slade School, welcomed the news. "He was always a fantastic student,

extremely talented. He was a great draughtsman from the start and totally dedicated." He also pointed out that a former Turner prize winner Antony Gormley was a Slade student, and that Ms

Whiteread went to both his college and Goldsmiths. The judges included Penny Johnson, director of the Government Art Collection, Julia Peyton-Jones, director of the Serpentine Gallery, and the

artist John Keane. They selected 62 paintings for exhibition and eight prizewinners. Second prize, of £5,000, was won by Frances Borden, a graduate of Chelsea College, for a self-portrait; third prize, of

£3,000, went to Clive Smith, who graduated from Kingston Polytechnic with a BA in fashion. Five others were commended with £1,000 prizes.

Galleries, page 38

## Return to the code of Moses, says bishop

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

CHURCH leaders called yesterday for a return to the Ten Commandments as the basis for living. The Right Rev Ambrose Griffiths, Roman Catholic Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, told a conference that, with rapid social changes, rules that had once governed behaviour were too readily thrown out. It was "easily suggested that now we know better", but was unwise to ignore the accumulated wisdom of experience enshrined in different religious traditions. The conference, organised by business, civic and religious leaders in the North East to look at challenges facing society was also addressed by Cardinal Basil Hume, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster. Bishop Griffiths, a former science master, said: "The Commandments and the whole of Christ's teaching... are nothing less than a description of reality, of the world and human relationships as they actually are, in the same way as scientific laws are descriptions of the world and its physical and biological relationships."

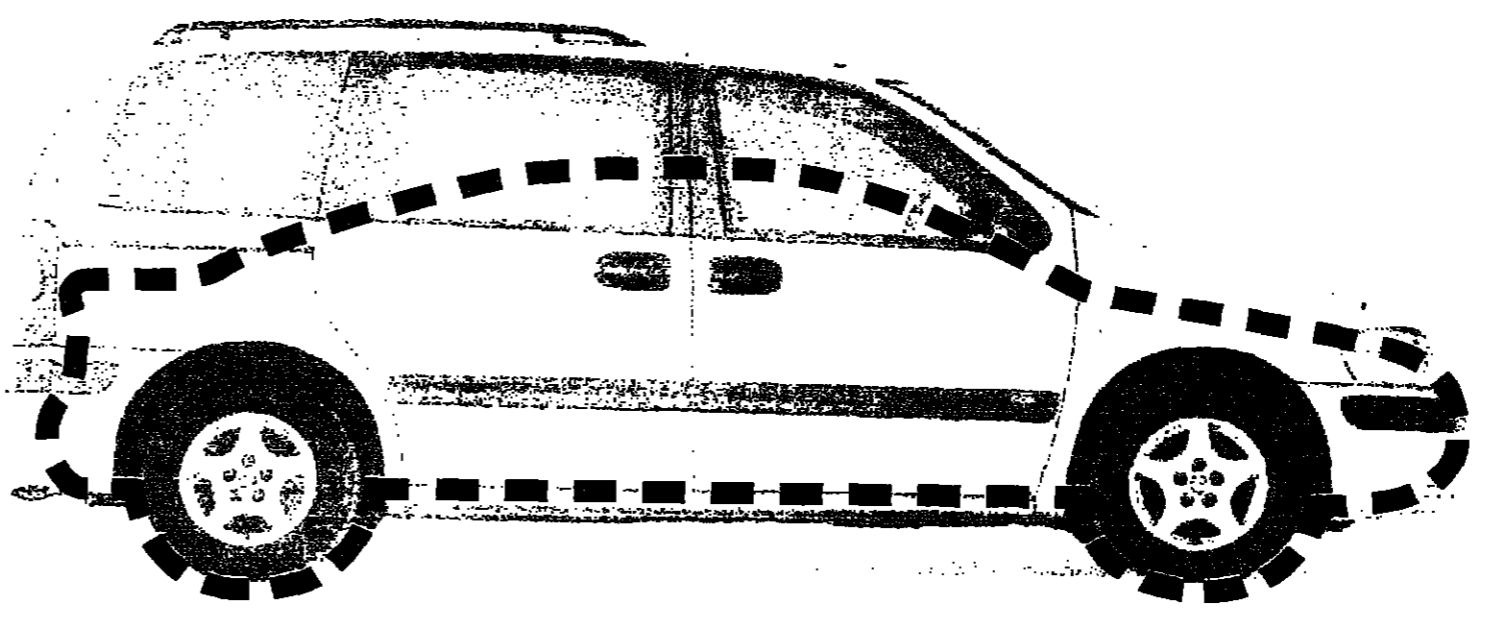
## Defective gene curbs lure of cigarettes

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

SOME people may be protected from becoming habitual smokers by a defective gene, a study has shown. They cannot break down nicotine as efficiently as others. As a result, they are more likely to avoid cigarettes and, if they do smoke, tend to smoke less. The gene defect is carried by about one in six of the people studied by a team at the University of Toronto. "People with the defective gene are twice as likely to avoid smoking," Rachel Tyndale, the team leader, said. The gene, called CYP2A5, produces an enzyme that breaks down nicotine into cotinine in the body. Dr Tyndale and colleagues reasoned that people who had trouble metabolising nicotine might be more resistant to its addictive effects. They looked at two groups: 244 people who smoked regularly and 184 non-smokers. They found the defective gene was present in 19.6 per cent of the non-smokers but in only 12.3 per cent of the smokers. Among the smokers, those with the gene defect smoked less than the average.

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# Ministers urged to halt decline of allotments

MPs RALLIED to the cause of allotment gardeners yesterday with an appeal for urgent government action to halt the decline in plots in England and Wales.

Tougher laws are needed to prevent allotments from being turned into housing, car parks and supermarkets, said a report by the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Select Committee.

Allotments provide direct, practical benefits to plot-holders in the form of affordable, fresh vegetables, physical exercise and social activity, Andrew Bennett, Labour chairman of the environment sub-committee, said.

"Although many sites are nominally subject to protection by law, the patchy nature of local authority policy and the absence of credible checks upon the sale of sites means they are being sold off at an alarming rate."

In the report, *The Future for Allotments*, the MPs call on the Government to produce a Green Paper, followed by a Bill, within the lifetime of this Parliament to protect the remaining sites.

The MPs said "allotment land was the principal category of urban green space" now being lost and urged local authorities to recognise the "therapeutic potential" of allotments for the elderly and

## Plot-holders dig for victory against development, reports Michael Hornsby

those with physical and mental health problems.

The number of plot-holders reached a peak of more than 1.4 million in the Dig for Victory campaign during the Second World War, but has declined steadily since then to about 250,000 spread at 7,800 sites.

Seventy-four per cent of sites were owned by local authorities and enjoyed statutory protection, which meant they could be disposed of only with the consent of the Environment Secretary. But the effectiveness of this protection had declined, the MPs found.

"The Secretary of State has not refused an application for the sale of a statutory site during the last three years," the report said.

"We also received some evidence of manipulation by local authorities to categorise sites as derelict or surplus, thereby ensuring approval by the Secretary of State for sale of the

land." Since May last year, the sale of 51 statutory allotment sites had been approved and in only two cases were replacement sites provided.

They estimated that, although 13,000 people were registered on allotment waiting lists, there were about 43,000 unattended plots. This partly reflected a mismatch between supply and demand in different parts of the country, but also the uncertain legal status of many sites.

Alan Rees, chairman of the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners, which has 87,000 members, said: "The report is very welcome. It says what we have been saying for years, and we hope that the Government will act on its recommendations, though we fear they may have come too late."

Mr Rees said local authorities needed to do more to protect allotments from vandalism. In a survey five years ago, two thirds of plot-holders reported damage to their sites.

The report was also greeted by the Royal Town Planning Institute. Trevor Roberts, the president, said: "To town-dwellers allotments represent a piece of green belt on their doorstep, and those allotments need to be protected from development pressure just as much as the countryside."



The number of plot-holders has fallen from a peak of 1.4 million to about 250,000

# Labour fears backlash over taxing motorists

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS are backing away from heavy charges aimed at forcing car drivers to use public transport.

The Government is finalising its plans to curb a huge rise in car travel but now favours improving alternative transport. Proposals to charge motorists up to £5 a day for entering city centres have been put on hold.

Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, said yesterday that charging was a plan for the "mid-term" and would come after policies aimed at improving transport by foot, bicycle and bus.

Ministers are still preparing measures such as charging firms for employee parking and steep increases in petrol prices. Local councils are to be allowed to impose a charge on staff parking spaces provided by employers. Charges of £100 per space, levied on the employer, would raise hundreds of millions of pounds for public transport projects.

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, has been under pressure from Cabinet colleagues to scale down his plans to impose driving charges directly on motorists. Tony Blair's officials fear a political backlash from voters who turned to Labour for the first time at the last election.

New figures were published yesterday showing an increase of one third in the amount of car travel over the past decade. Mr Strang said

they demonstrated the need for a change in attitudes. "Unless we alter some of these trends, they are not sustainable."

Mr Strang refused to be drawn on the detail of plans to be unveiled in a transport White Paper next month, but said that the growth in the two-car family was a particular concern. The proportion of households with one car has remained unchanged for 30 years, but the percentage with two cars has risen fivefold. A quarter of all households have access to more than one car.

Mr Strang said that improvements to public transport would encourage people to reduce the number of cars they owned. "Some journeys are, clearly, more conveniently done by car. We want everyone to use the car less when it is practical to do so. It's not about compulsion and it's not about making people worse off."

"We are faced with a big challenge, but we are optimistic. People out there do understand that we can't go on the way we are."

Among the evidence contained in *Transport Trends*, a government study of travel over the last 50 years, is that people make more trips taking their children to school than on business. In the early 1950s, bus and coach travel was the most common form of transport but now it accounts for only 6 per cent of travel.



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## Hindley's prison move confirmed

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MYRA HINDLEY, the Moors murderer, is to be transferred permanently from a top security women's unit to a medium security jail, the Prison Service announced yesterday. She is to remain indefinitely at Highpoint prison in Suffolk after successfully completing a trial period at the jail.

But the move does not mean that Hindley, 54, who will die in jail, will serve the remainder of her life sentence at the prison. Prison Service sources said that, depending on circumstances, she could be transferred elsewhere.

Roy Woodford, governor of Highpoint, said: "A three-month trial is normal procedure for lifers to see if they settle into the system and regime. She has settled in okay and has not been a problem at all. One is aware that she is a very long-serving inmate, but there have been no special arrangements made

for her." Hindley is living in a small unit housing a maximum of eight female prisoners and spends between ten and 11 hours out of her cell each day. She is in the unit because she needs to be protected from the other 200 prisoners.

She is employed as a cleaner in the unit and works in the garden of the jail's segregation unit. Her cell is on the ground floor because she suffers from osteoarthritis which limits her ability to move around. She has no access to education facilities because they involve using stairs.

Hindley has been at the Category C, medium secure jail, since February when she was transferred from a top security H-wing at Durham prison which she had shared with Rosemary West. Other inmates in the wing had included IRA terrorists Martina Anderson and Ella O'Dwyer.

## Schoolgirl had been strangled

CLAIRE HART, the Cheshire schoolgirl whose body was found in a river on Tuesday, had been strangled and was already dead when her body was dumped, a post-mortem examination disclosed yesterday (Russell Jenkins writes).

Claire, 13, was discovered in a shallow section of the River Dane where the bank is hidden by trees. The spot is only a few hundred yards from the grounds of Dane Valley High School on the outskirts of Congleton, near to where she was last seen alive. Yesterday staff and pupils said prayers at an assembly to mourn Claire, who disappeared last Thursday morning after she left her home in the village of Easton to walk to the school. Hilary Archer, the acting head teacher, described the school as a family united in grief.

A man from Congleton has been remanded in custody by Macclesfield magistrates, charged with abducting Claire.

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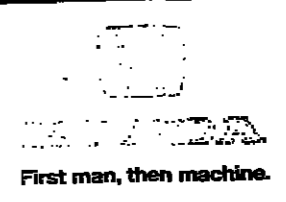
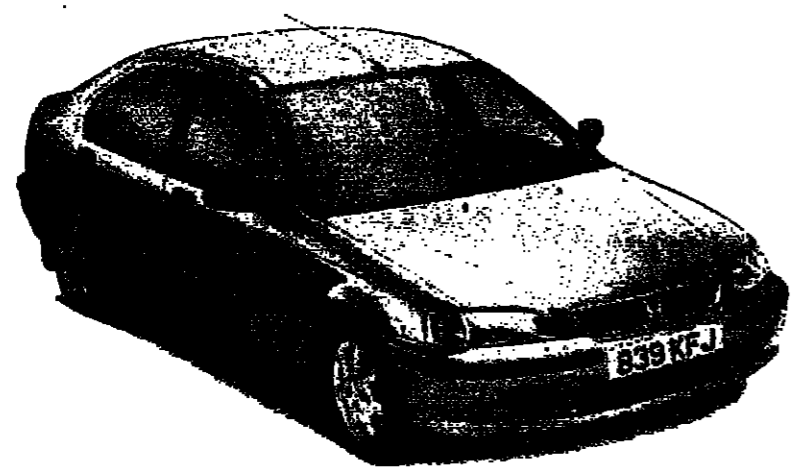
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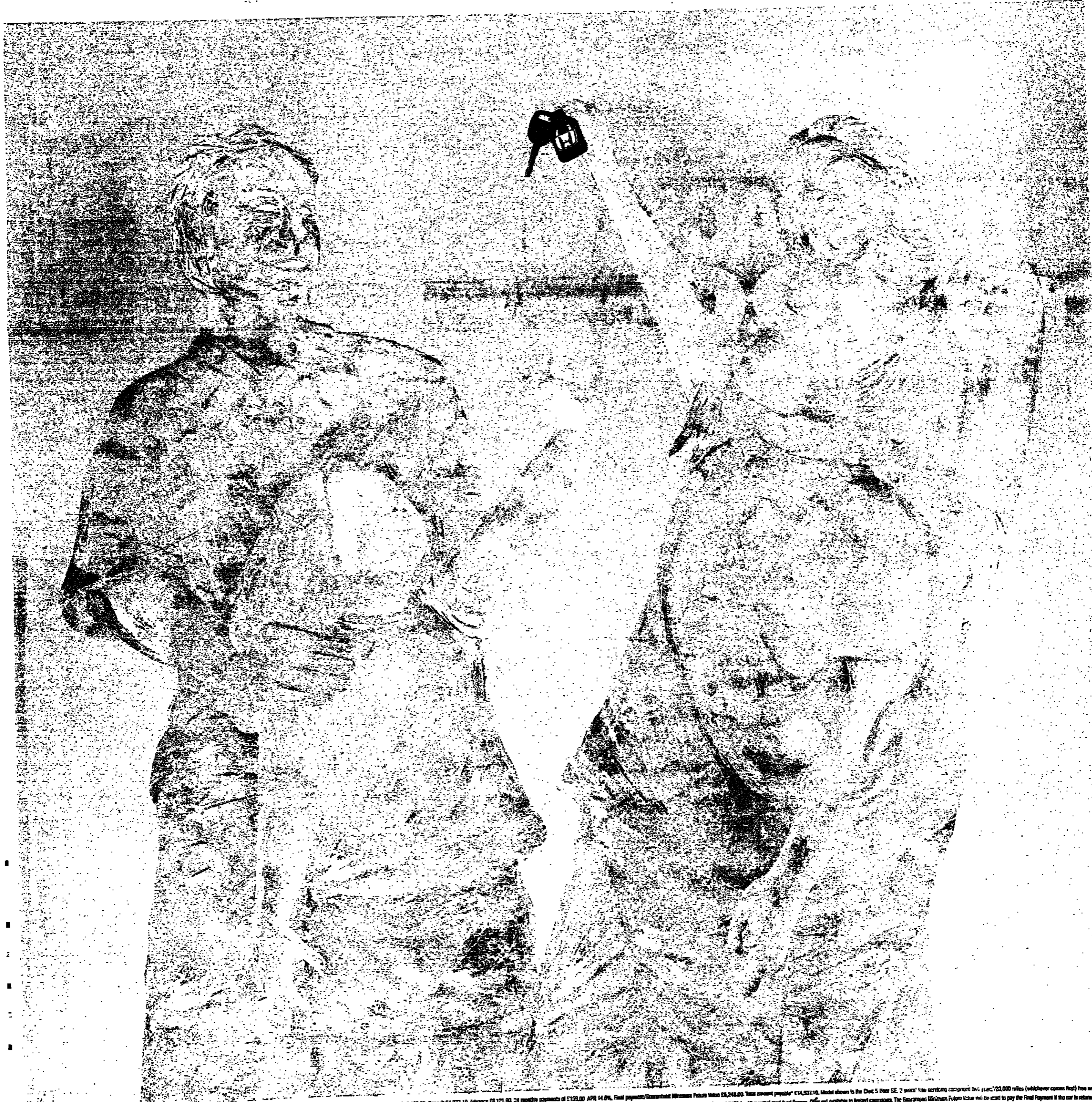
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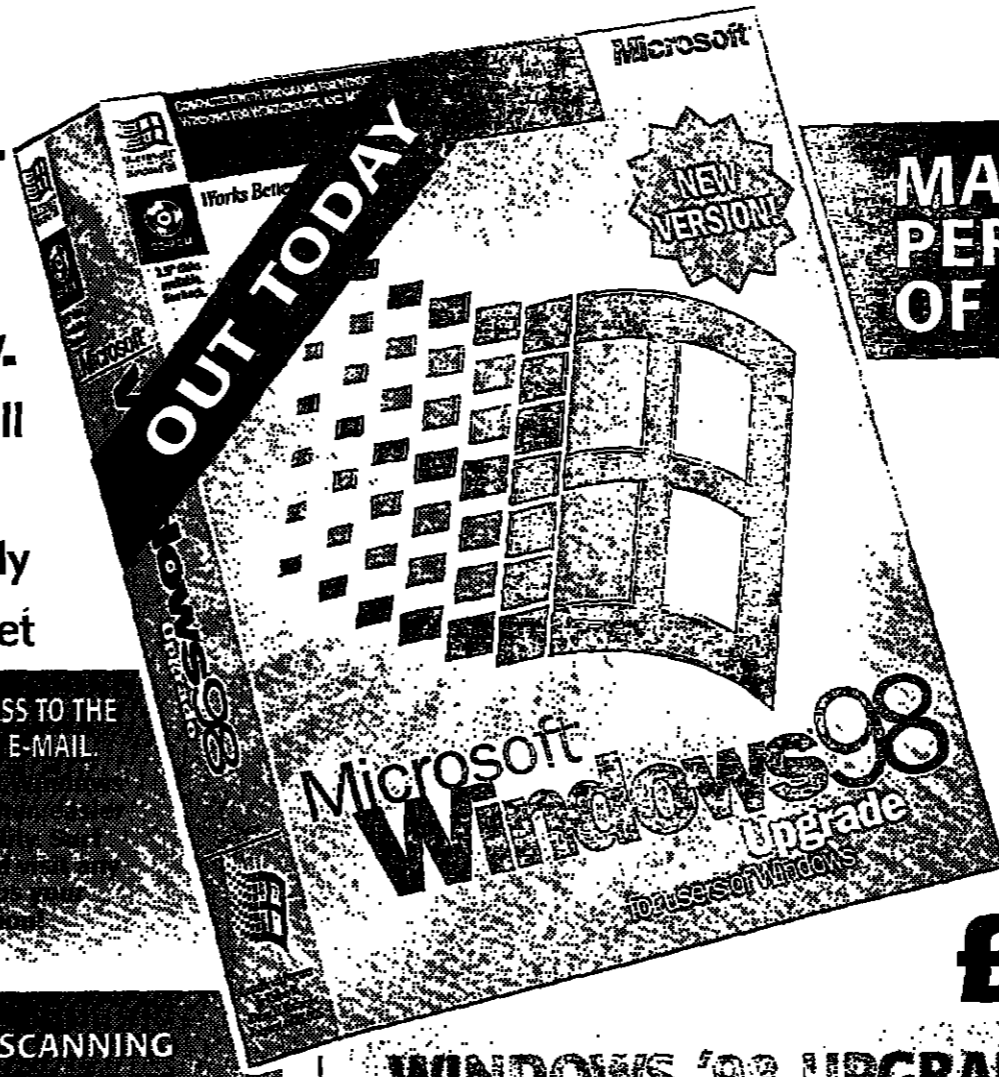
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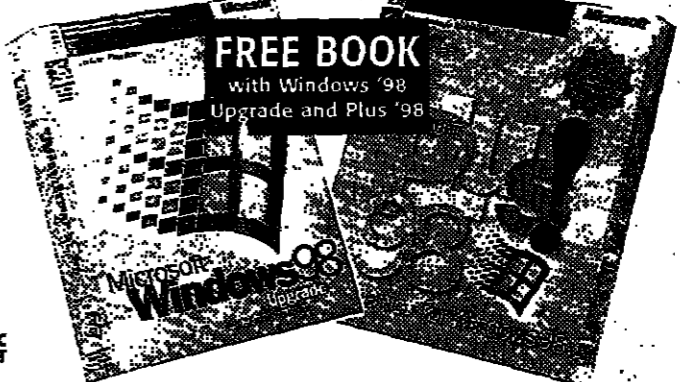
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# Tiger Moth roars in after 60-day trip from Australia

A PILOT landed his Tiger Moth in Britain yesterday after overcoming cyclones, nuclear tests and political riots on a solo flight from Australia. Barry Markham, 50, finished the 11,000-mile challenge in 60 days.

He found himself in Indonesia at the height of the riots that led to the resignation of President Suharto and in Pakistan as a state of emergency was declared after the nuclear tests there and in India. But he made it to France in time for the World Cup.

During the 60-day marathon, Mr Markham also endured a cyclone in Bangladesh, dust storms near Karachi as Pakistan was carrying out its nuclear tests, and an eight-hour crossing of the Arabian desert with no hope of rescue in the event of engine failure in the 1944 aircraft.

The triumphant finish of his trip from Cambridge, Western Australia, to Cambridge, eastern England, had to be postponed for 24 hours because of bad weather over the Channel. Dignitaries from Britain and Australia who had gathered to welcome the weary pilot with a champagne reception on Tuesday had to reconvene yesterday.

**Eve-Ann Prentice reports on a magnificent man in a 54-year-old flying machine**

Mr Markham was escorted by six Hornets and Tiger Moths on the last few miles into Cambridge airport where his wife, Carol, was waiting. He left Australia in April and spent 45 days in the air. The other days were spent recuperating from stomach upsets, resting or overseeing

repairs to his aircraft. One of his main problems was "an extremely sore backside", caused by sitting on a life raft and gas bottle in the cramped cockpit.

The journey was undertaken to raise funds for Australia's Royal Flying Doctor Service which used Tiger Moths made in Britain in its early years. Among those who greeted him in England were Clive Griffith, Agent-General of Western Australia, and Peter Northover, general manager of the Royal Flying Doctor Service in Western Australia.

Mr Markham's aircraft, named Margery after his mother, was rebuilt after being discovered scrapped in a barn in Australia. His journey retraced a famous Tiger Moth trip made by Jimmy "Timber" Woods who flew from Australia to Britain in 1933.

After travelling over Indonesia and Pakistan, the pilot flew over Saudi Arabia, Egypt,



Barry Markham is congratulated by his wife, Carol, at Cambridge airport yesterday after completing his 11,000-mile solo endurance test

Crete and Italy, crossing the Alps to France before making the final belated Channel crossing yesterday afternoon.

"I am very happy to have made it," Mr Markham said. "What I have been most

looking forward to is seeing my wife again. Now I want to see a grandchild who was born while I was en route six weeks ago."

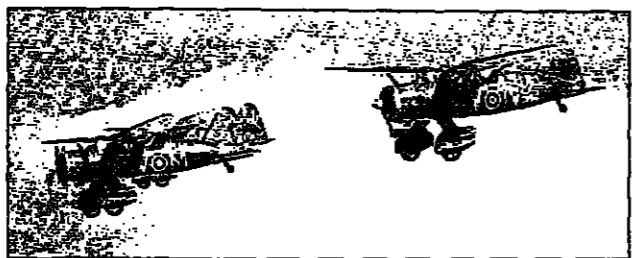
One of the most trying times during the flight was a stop-

over at Gwadar, Pakistan, where he spent a night in "the place from hell. There was no air-conditioning, the sheets hadn't been changed for months and the toilet was so revolting I couldn't bring myself to use it more than once."

Mr Markham also had difficulty finding fuel in Gwadar: "I had to resort to using a couple of old oil drums of fuel I found in a shed in the town, and this had to be brought by

cart out to the airfield."

The Tiger Moth that carried Mr Markham across the world is now to have its wings removed to allow it to be shipped in a crate back to Australia.



Lysanders took agents deep into occupied France

## Lysanders return to secret airfield

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

TIME appeared to have turned back 55 years yesterday as a British Lysander of the type that flew agents into occupied Europe during the war landed on a former secret airstrip in France.

The landing of the Westland Lysander in an isolated meadow at Bletterans, near the Franco-Swiss border, was the highlight of a two-day celebration to inaugurate a monument to former Royal Air Force pilots who flew the aircraft and to the French Resistance fighters who formed their "reception committees".

"The Bletterans field, then codenamed Leontine and Arc-en-Ciel is best known as the place from where the RAF picked up Jean Moulin, supreme head of the French Resistance, in 1943 to fly him to Britain," said Wing Commander Stephen Gunner, British Air Attaché to France.

Moulin was flown to London with General Delestraint to report to General de Gaulle. He later returned to France, where he was captured by the Gestapo. He was tortured in one prison after another and died in Metz.

The single-engine Lysander now belongs to Sabena, the Belgian airline, and flew to Bletterans from Belgium. During wartime operations they took off from the Tempsford, in Bedfordshire, bringing two or three Free French secret agents at a time to land deep in occupied France.

Yesterday's commemoration ceremonies were organised by L'Amicale Action, the association of former Free French agents, many of whom were parachuted into occupied France by the RAF and who made up the majority of Lysander passengers to France.

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# The final whistle blows for Ulster's exhausted voters

NORTHERN IRELAND today takes what should be another giant stride towards peace when its elects its first government since London suspended Stormont and introduced direct rule in 1972.

Nearly 300 candidates from 16 parties are standing in one of the most important elections in the province's 77-year history. It is also one of the most low-key and hardest to read. Seamus Mallon, the nationalist SDLP's deputy leader, called it "the second half of the most important cup final any of us will ever play", the first half being last month's referendum on the peace accord.

The Rev Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist Party leader, said he was convinced the DUP and other opponents of that accord would win enough places in the 108-seat power-sharing assembly to thwart, if necessary, key provisions such as prisoner releases, Sinn Féin's presence on the executive and new cross-border bodies.

David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist Party leader who has championed the accord, was equally certain its opponents would be vanquished: voters "are not going to throw this opportunity away. They are

**Martin Fletcher on 'the second half of the most important cup final any of us will ever play'**

not going to throw away the goodwill of the world."

As if to illustrate his words, a large car bomb exploded in the South Armagh village of Newtownhamilton as dissident republicans sought to disrupt the elections.

The bomb, a grim reminder of the violence they are designed to end, was left in a hotel car park next to the fortified police barracks and caused extensive damage to surrounding buildings, including the polling station. It injured a 15-year-old boy who was in stable condition in hospital last night.

The Irish National Liberation Army said it carried out the bombing, but security sources said the Continuity IRA, or the so-called True IRA, which is linked to the 32-

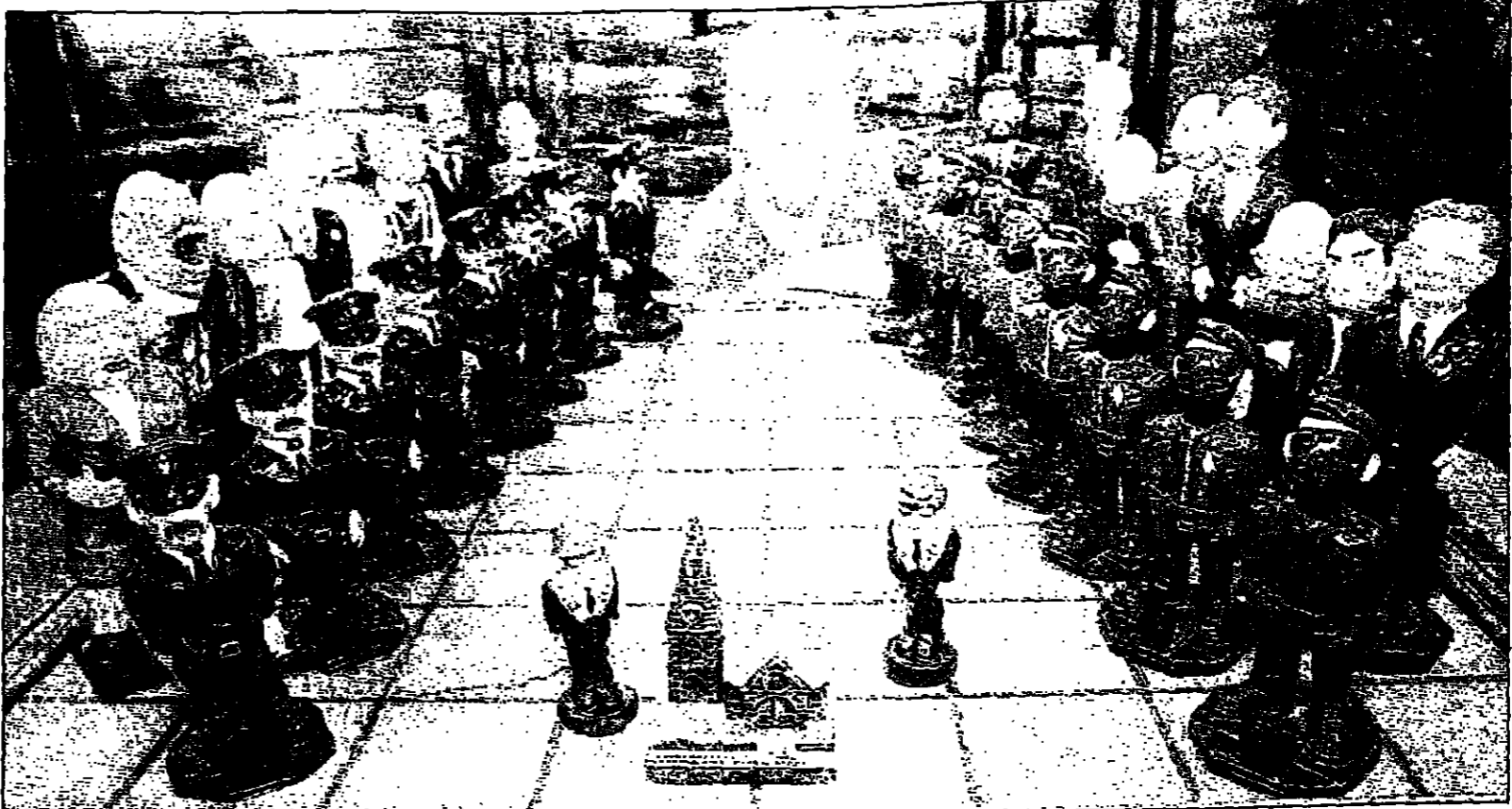
County Sovereignty Committee, could have been involved. All three groups oppose the peace process and have been forging an alliance.

In the elections, much will depend on the turnout. Mr Paisley claimed Unionists who turned out in record numbers to vote "yes" in the referendum felt Tony Blair had reneged on his promise to link prisoner releases to IRA disarmament and would either stay at home or back the accord's opponents.

The campaign has also been singularly lacklustre, with the province exhausted by five elections in two years and distracted by the World Cup. It was the fourth story on BBC Radio Ulster's news yesterday morning, and the candidates' placards are jostling for position on lampposts with those left over from the referendum.

Some argue that Northern Ireland's electorate was remarkably astute politically and essentially made its choice last month. "There's no more politicised people," John Hume, the SDLP leader said. "They will be voting tomorrow to implement what they voted for in the referendum because they want to leave the past behind them."

The second key factor is the



Chessmen representing personalities in the peace process, sculpted by Anto Brennan, on display in the foyer of the Europa Hotel in Belfast

extent to which voters will deem the pro and anti-agreement divide more important than the traditional sectarian divide. For the first time, large numbers of SDLP supporters may take advantage of the single transferable vote system to give candidates from Mr Trimble's UUP their "transfers" to exclude the Paisleyites. Conversely, UUP voters may give theirs to the SDLP or centrist Alliance Party to exclude both the Paisleyites and Sinn Féin, which is vying to overtake the SDLP as nationalism's voice.

Northern Ireland's parliamentary constituencies will each elect six people to the assembly, which will be 48 seats bigger than the proposed Welsh parliament and 48 smaller than Scotland's. They will initially earn £29,000 a year plus £15,000 for expenses. The assembly will meet for the first time next Tuesday at the Stormont Castle Buildings, site of the peace talks, and will elect a first minister and deputy first minister who are likely to be Mr Trimble and Mr Hume. It must also decide where its permanent home will be. Unionists favour Stormont, but national-

ists favour a new site. The assembly will sit in shadow form until early next year as it sets up an executive, based on party strengths, and new cross-border bodies, and establishes its working practices. Key decisions cannot be taken without cross-community support. Only three of its possible members — Mr Hume, the SDLP MP Eddie McGrady, and the UUP's deputy leader John Taylor — have any experience of government. The first results are expected late tomorrow.

Leading article, page 25

## Candidates who traded weapons for ballot box

By Our Chief Ireland Correspondent

GERRY KELLY, a tall figure in a double-breasted suit and wire-rimmed glasses, strode confidently along the terraced streets of nationalist North Belfast yesterday, greeting people in their doorways and confirming their support in today's elections. Armed British soldiers watched from a distance.

Many Unionists find Mr Kelly's almost certain election hard to stomach. He is revered within the IRA. He planned the 1973 Old Bailey bombing in which a man died and 250 were injured, was force-fed during a 205-day hunger strike in Wormwood Scrubs, and in 1983 helped to organise the biggest escape in British prison history from the Maze. His election agent, Brendan McFarlane, is a fellow escaper with whom he was rearrested while buying arms in The Netherlands in 1986.

"I have nothing to hide about my past. I was proud when I was in the IRA," said Mr Kelly. He was fighting "military occupation at its worst — Catholics being shot by state forces and massive discrimination". He is standing for election because "I believe the potential is there to sort this conflict out, have a lasting peace and deal with the core issues." And if that potential is not realised? "I don't know what happens."

The voters of North Belfast — a volatile patchwork of loyalist and nationalist communities, where a fifth of the Troubles' 3,600 deaths occurred — face a choice in

today's elections without precedent in Britain. Three of the candidates have served life sentences for atrocities.

Billy Hutchinson, of the Progressive Unionist Party, shot dead two randomly selected Roman Catholics in West Belfast in 1974 and John White, the Ulster Democratic Party chairman, stabbed and mutilated a Catholic politician and his girlfriend in their car in 1973.

Across the Province, at least 20 former terrorists, republican and loyalist, are on the ballot papers. Some question the sincerity of their conversion, especially the republicans. Nearly half Sinn Féin's 38 candidates have been jailed.

Several former terrorists left prison reformed. Billy Hutchinson, of the DUP, is a city councillor and community worker. "I am repenting by trying to make this a better place for people," he said recently.



Kelly: proud of IRA past but sees chance for peace

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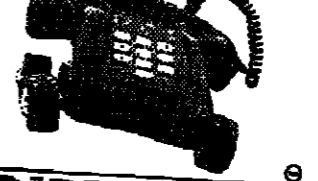
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# Public schools fear decline of universities

Heads warn of falling standards as ex-pupils reveal the pitfalls of life on campus, reports John O'Leary

THE quality of university life is under strain from the relentless expansion of higher education, leading independent schools said yesterday. The warning follows a survey of the impressions of campus life gained by former pupils of the schools.

Poor interviewing of applicants, infrequent contact with tutors, worries over student safety, and even grumbles over the food were all seen as symptoms of the pressure on universities. Head teachers said that standards could well drop if the squeeze on university budgets continued.

The Girls' Schools Association and the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference carried out the survey because of fears that the level of pastoral care in universities had declined. A spate of student suicides had raised concerns among head teachers.

Although most of the 6,000 students surveyed were enjoying university life, almost a third were less than satisfied with their course. About one in ten had serious financial problems and some gave alarming accounts of conditions around their halls of residence.

Philip Cheshire, Headmas-

ter of Warwick School, who co-chaired the working party that produced the research, said the survey had allayed many concerns. But he added: "I am not as reassured as I would like to be. There are still too many horror stories."

Incidents quoted included a fatal stabbing and shooting outside a hall of residence, the petrol-bombing of cars near another, and two racist attacks. One student wrote: "This is an extremely rough area. Fireworks and rocks hitting our window on the eighth floor can be annoying when you have work to do."

Nine per cent of women and 7 per cent of men rated security as unsatisfactory in the area where they lived. Salford University had the lowest satisfaction rating. Lancaster and Kingston universities were rated the safest.

The survey confirmed head teachers' fears that contact with tutors was declining, with a quarter of the students seeing their tutor only every three weeks. New students, used to regular contact with their teachers, found it hard to adapt to the change.

Interview techniques were a cause for concern, with the

schools calling for more training of university staff involved in admissions. Tony Evans, Headmaster of King's College School, Wimbledon, said that interviewers were increasingly "eccentric". One greeted an applicant by throwing him an apple. Another interview lasted three minutes.

Mr Evans said: "Some of the techniques presumably are meant to test the psychology of the interviewee, but they reveal more about the psychology of the interviewer. Others are little more than sales pitches by the university."

About a quarter of the students found the workload at university heavier than they had expected, although a similar proportion were pleasantly surprised. Imperial College London and Oxford and Cambridge universities registered by far the highest workload. There were differences between subjects, with architecture, engineering, veterinary science, medicine and some science subjects demanding the most work. Veterinary science was nevertheless the most popular subject, followed by physiology and history of art. General engineering, economics, computing and sociology were the least popular.

Medical schools used GCSE grades to select candidates. "Though one wants to be treated by doctors who know what they are doing, it isn't an advantage to select candidates at the age of 16 when other qualities are often not assessed," Mr Evans said.

Mr Cheshire said that the survey had confirmed previous concerns about possible racial bias in admissions to medical courses. Applicants with names suggesting an ethnic minority background had been rejected with qualifications as good as successful white candidates.

Magnus Linklater, page 24



The German Chancellor being followed at Cambridge yesterday by Baroness Castle of Blackburn, wearing the traditional black bonnet

## Kohl keeps clear head after degree honour

By JOHN SHAW

HELMUT KOHL defied tradition yesterday just minutes after being honoured by Cambridge University. The German Chancellor emerged from the ceremony not wearing his new black velvet bonnet.

Others awarded honorary degrees all donned their hats as they were led in a small procession by the Duke of Edinburgh, the university's Chancellor. But Herr Kohl, who had sat through an hour-long ceremony, said that he was too hot to wear the bonnet as well as his scarlet robes.

The robes and bonnet were specially made for Herr Kohl and, although

he was not obliged to wear the headgear, recipients of the honour traditionally put it on.

Herr Kohl, 68, received an honorary law degree along with the veteran Labour politician Baroness Castle of Blackburn. A spokeswoman for Herr Kohl said: "It was quite hot in there and he held the bonnet in his hand — but he knew about the meaning of the hat. He was very pleased with the ceremony."

A small group of student demonstrators chanted as he arrived for the ceremony at Senate House. They shouted: "Kohl, Kohl score a goal — cancel Third World debt." But their protest was largely drowned out by

church bells from Great St Mary's, which were rung to greet the degree recipients.

The most poignant part of the ceremony was symbolised by a chair left deliberately empty with a black bonnet on the seat in honour of Aung San Suu Kyi, the pro-democracy campaigner in Burma who was held under house arrest by the military regime for six years.

Honorary degrees cannot be accepted in absentia but, if she had attended the ceremony, Daw Suu Kyi, whose English husband and two sons are in Britain, might not have been allowed to return to Burma. Jeffrey Skelsey, private secretary to the Vice-

Chancellor of the university, said: "Leaving a chair deliberately empty has never happened quite like this before and is the university's way of making a statement about the military government in Burma."

Anthony Bowen, the university orator, said of the Burmese regime: "They call her whore and snake and sorceress and revile her for wedding a foreigner. These are ugly words, almost better not said, but such are the waves of abuse that crash down upon her. They dare not destroy her, however. It is a matter of great regret that we cannot honour her as we would wish and as she most rightly and richly deserves."

### INDEPENDENT PUPILS' TOP CHOICES

Library facilities	Accommodation	Quality of food
1 Bath	1 Leeds	1 Plymouth
2 Oxford	2 Warwick	2 UWE
3 Hull	3 St Andrew's	3 Nottingham Trent
4 Glasgow	4 Kingston	4 Oxford Brookes
5 Cambridge	5 Cambridge	5 Aberystwyth
6 Newcastle	6 Bath	
7 Loughborough	7 Hull	
8 UMIST	8 Huddersfield	
9 Manchester	9 Southampton	
10 QMUL	10 Surrey	
		<b>Safety</b>
		1 Lancaster
		2 Kingston
		3 St Andrew's
		4 Imperial
		5 Aberystwyth
		6 Bath
		7 Cambridge
		8 Warwick
		9 Nottingham
		10 Sussex

## National curriculum should not hold back the best, says Woodhead

By POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

GOOD schools should have more freedom to choose what they teach instead of being bound by the national curriculum, the Chief Inspector of Schools said yesterday. Chris Woodhead also said that schools performing well should have fewer assessments by Ofsted.

He acknowledged that some Ofsted inspections fell below the standard he required, and urged schools to "blow the whistle" on inspectors who seemed to have carried "their own ideological baggage" into the classroom instead of judging teachers according to objective criteria.

Mr Woodhead, who was addressing a conference in

London organised by the Centre for Policy Studies, a rightwing think-tank, said: "We should be at least reflecting on the possibility of relaxing the requirements of the national curriculum with regard to those schools that are demonstrating year by year that they are doing a very good job for their students."

Under the 1988 Education Act, children between the ages of five and 14 must be taught and tested regularly in mathematics, English and science. They are also required to learn music, PE, health education, geography and history.

Only private schools and those in the Government's new education action zones



Woodhead: urged more choice for good schools

are exempt from the legal requirement to teach national curriculum subjects. A review is under way to decide how the curriculum is working and if it

should be changed after 2000. Mr Woodhead also suggested that local education authorities should play less of a role in running schools. In particular, he did not believe that there was any need for them to have control of education for children with special educational needs or to control the allocation of school places.

"I am not persuaded that those functions [should] necessarily involve the local democratic decision-making process," he said.

Mr Woodhead said it was vital to give schools as high a proportion as possible of the resources available for education rather than diverting funds to local education authorities, because that was the key to improving standards.

"It is only schools, it is only teachers, that can raise educational standards. What matters is what happens in the classrooms."

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers,

welcomed what he described as a shift in Mr Woodhead's thinking, but said that he would go further.

He suggested that all schools other than those deemed to be failing their pupils should have to undergo

inspections only once every ten years, instead of every six years as at present.

Mr Hart said that teachers should have the right to complain about not only Ofsted inspectors with a clear ideological agenda but also about

those who had no experience of teaching in "modern schooling". He added that national curriculum requirements should be relaxed for all schools unless they had been singled out as particularly poor.

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# Sun assault makes entry more likely

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

THE attack by *The Sun* yesterday on Tony Blair was ridiculously over the top. It said more about the internal politics of *The Sun* than about the gradual, and still hesitant, warming in Mr Blair's attitude towards the single currency. But it could mark a significant, and welcome, stage in the coming-of-age of the Blair Government.

The Prime Minister's statements on the single currency, and his relations with the sceptic press, particularly *The Sun*, have rested on pretence and self-delusion. The media has sought to depict Mr Blair as a patriot — worthy of the approval of Baroness Thatcher — because he is, allegedly, fighting Gordon Brown's machinations to take Britain into monetary union.

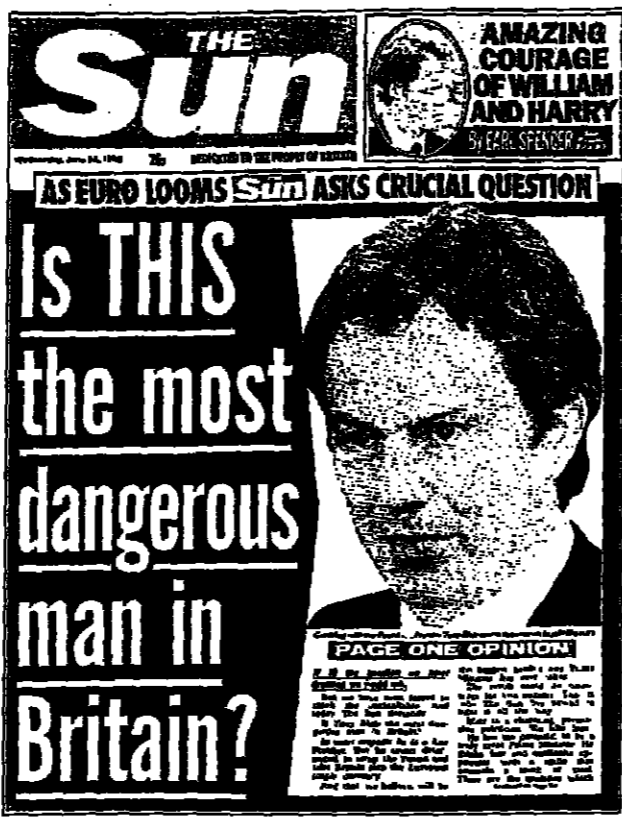
That has always been a nonsense. Mr Blair's true position is that he wants Britain to be at the centre of the European debate, rather than at the sidelines. He hopes that the single currency will succeed, has refused to rule out British participation in principle, but has wanted to wait and see how monetary union develops before reaching a decision to be put to the public in a referendum early in the next parliament.

Apart from the current divergence of interest rates between Britain and Germany, Mr Blair believes the Govern-

ment needs a breathing space to establish itself domestically before facing up to such a divisive issue. Nonetheless, Mr Blair's key advisers have been privately assuring other European leaders that, as long as monetary union works, it is a question of when, not if, Britain joins. Gordon Brown has been more positive in public about British readiness to enter if the conditions are right.

However, Mr Blair has chosen to be more opaque in public, often appearing more positive when addressing European audiences, as at the Cardiff summit ten days ago, but still cautious when talking domestically. In that sense, Mr Blair has partly fuelled the sceptics' claims that he is sympathetic to them, notably in a nationalistic article under his name in *The Sun* when the paper endorsed him before the election. By trying not to alienate both pro and anti monetary union groups, he was bound to annoy one side, inevitably leading to charges of betrayal, as now.

Mr Blair's advisers have believed it is desirable to have *The Sun* on side, or at least neutral. They have hoped that it will be possible in time to win round *The Sun* and Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, not least if the latter expands its Euro-



The Sun: ridiculously over the top attack on Blair

pean interests. That was always likely to be wrong because it underestimated the gut nationalism/populism which makes *The Sun* tick and exaggerated the influence of any newspaper. Papers, even best-selling ones such as *The Sun*, reinforce rather than create public opinion. The opposition of *The Sun* in a referendum campaign would be a complicating factor, but it would probably not be decisive. At present, many more people are firmly opposed than are in favour, but a significant minority has a conditional view, depending on what happens and what lead is given.

Yesterday's warning to Mr Blair blows away the illusions, and delusions. That

should be healthier for both sides. *The Sun* and other sceptic commentators no longer have to pretend he is secretly on their side and they can develop their anti-campaign. In a carefully argued speech yesterday, Francis Maude put forward conditions that would rule out British entry for a very long time. Meanwhile, the Government no longer has to court the sceptic press and should be free to argue the case for entry. Mr Blair shows no signs yet of departing from his step-by-step approach, but yesterday's assault by *The Sun* makes entry in the next four or five years more rather than less likely.

PETER RIDDELL

# Maude attacks Labour 'dogma' on joining euro

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

FRANCIS MAUDE used his first speech as Shadow Chancellor to present the most detailed Tory case so far against Britain's entry for at least two Parliaments into a single currency.

Higher interest rates, massive start-up costs, excessive regulation and higher taxes were the inevitable cost of surrendering the pound, he said.



Maude set out Tory case against single currency

His speech, which came on the same day as *The Sun's* broadside against Tony Blair, turned the tables in the conventional argument over Europe. He tried to debunk "myths" over the party's policy on Europe by depicting the Tories as the pragmatists while Labour were driven by narrow ideology.

"That is why we have said we want time to see if the euro would be appropriate for Britain. That is the pragmatic course, for at the end of the next Parliament Britain will still have its options open. The dogmatic course is to decide now to join, as the present Government has done," he said.

"The pragmatic course is to see if it works," he said in a speech to the Carlton Club political committee. He denied that the Tories believed and hoped that the euro would fail.

times out of ten." On tax harmonisation he said that Britain would sacrifice the advantages of a low-tax economy because it would have come into line with the rest of Europe: by raising taxes.

Even the Treasury conceded that Britain's economic cycle went in the opposite direction to Germany's. When Germany's economy accelerated Britain's slowed. "When Germany most needs high interest rates, Britain most needs low interest rates."

"This staggering but little-known finding would, if more widely understood, surely be the final nail in the coffin of any early monetary union involving our two countries. It is this simple fact that effectively rules out membership of the euro for the remainder of this Parliament and the next."

He also rounded on critics who argued that to stay outside would exclude Britain's exports from the lucrative European market. "This is not legally possible. The Treaty of Rome... guarantees our access to the single market." Only 15 per cent of British output was sold to Europe, while the rest went elsewhere in the world, he said.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 24

# Blair refuses to give way on student tuition fees

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

TONY BLAIR yesterday promised to press ahead with variable rates of tuition fees for students in Scotland despite coming under fierce attack from a Labour left-winger.

The Prime Minister insisted that the Government would overturn the defeat which it suffered in the Lords on Tuesday. A cross-party alliance of 151 Tory peers, 33 Liberal Democrats, and 24 cross-benchers voted by a majority of 123 to stop English, Welsh, and Northern Irish students in Scotland having to pay higher tuition fees than their Scottish counterparts.

To Tory cheers, Dennis Canavan, the Labour MP for Falkirk West, demanded that Mr Blair allow MPs a free vote on the Bill next week. "Why should students from England, Wales, Northern Ireland, doing a four-year course at Scottish universities have to pay £1,000 more than students from any other country in the EU?" he said.

Mr Blair said that poorer students would not have to pay fees and added that the reforms would boost university numbers and investment in higher education. The Teaching and Higher Education Bill will return to the Commons next Wednesday when the Government expects to overturn the amendment.

Magnus Lindkvist, page 24

Nato draw Kosovo military options

# Short dismisses MPs' criticism of aid remarks

BY NICHOLAS WATT, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CLARE SHORT yesterday clashed with Labour MPs over her remarks that international aid agencies launch pointless appeals which cause unnecessary alarm.

Backbenchers fired a series of hostile questions at Ms Short during an appearance before a Commons committee after she said last month that many humanitarian appeals were so emotive they made people "turn and flinch away". The International Development Secretary criticised the Disasters Emergency Committee for launching an appeal to help Sudan because she said the current famine was caused by a lack of access to the stricken areas and not by a lack of money.

Ann Clwyd, Labour's former Overseas Development spokeswoman, challenged Ms Short by saying that the United Nations had only received 30 per cent of its

projected food appeal funding in 1997. Bernie Grant, the Labour MP for Tottenham, quoted from a memorandum which reportedly showed that the Sudanese Government had allowed aid agencies to fly food into famine-hit areas.

Ms Short told the International Development Select Committee that she stood by her original remarks, insisting that access and not money was not the problem. When Ms Clwyd quoted an Oxfam official, who accused Ms Short of being "dangerously out of touch", the International Development Secretary snapped.

She said: "I think, with respect Ann, you seem to want to stoke up an old row that has now been explained."

Mr Grant interjected: "Not by you."

Ms Short: "The question is whether you listened. It has been fully explained and is absolutely clear. Is it most

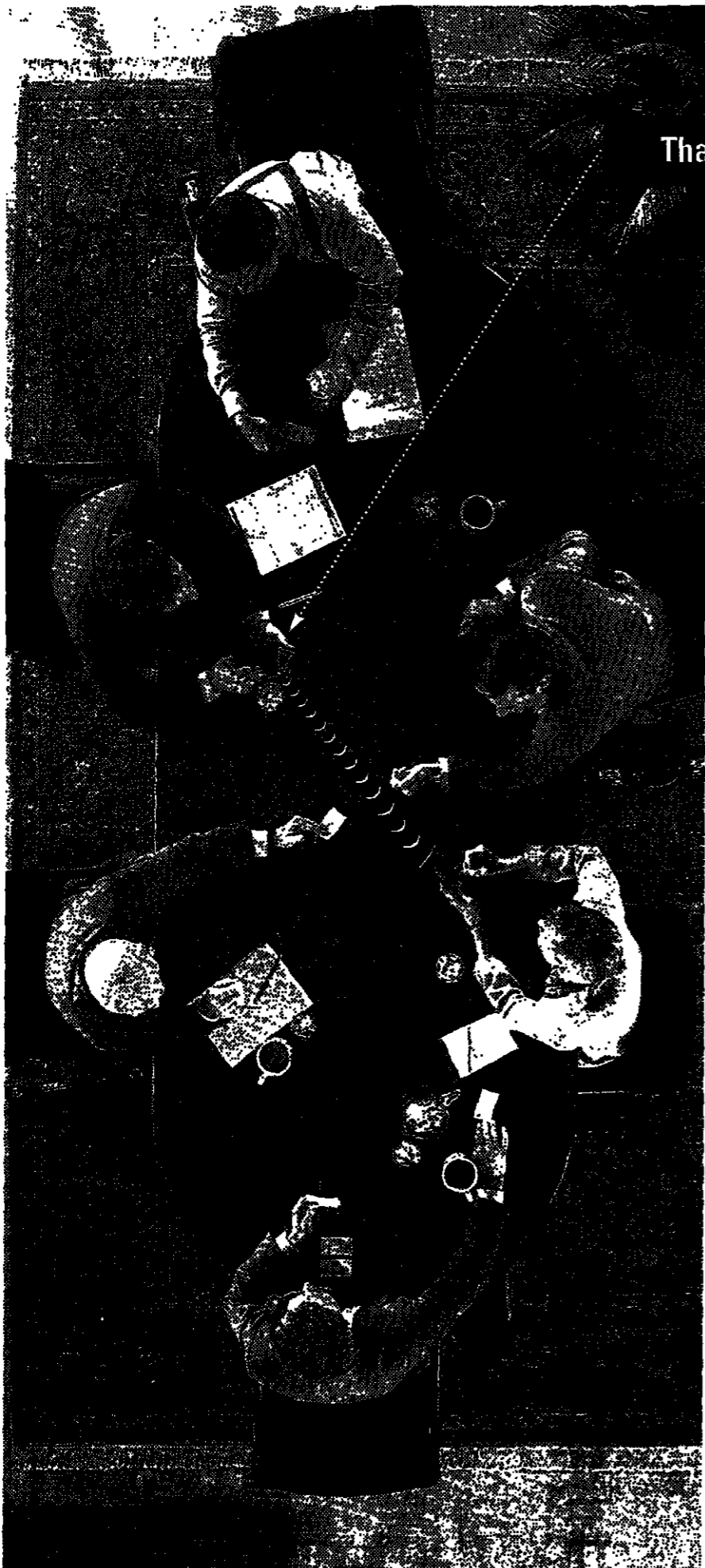
helpful for people like you to keep going over and over this ground. Or is it helpful for us all to combine with the [agency] and get more aid in?"

Ms Clwyd hit back: "I would not have asked these questions if I felt they had been answered."

But Tess Kingham, the Labour MP for Gloucester who worked for an aid agency before the election, said: "It is a debate that is long overdue. You really hit the nail on the head. It is about stopping these famines and not just about bringing out the begging bowls."

### IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: Treasury questions; debate on Energy Efficiency Bill; motor; debate on social welfare; short debate on environmental protection for Foz de Beira; in the Lords: European Parliamentary Elections Bill; committee; debate on report on digital images as evidence; debate on environmental damage caused by quarrying.



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THE SUNDAY



# Nato to draw up Kosovo military options

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT AND CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

NATO planners are putting together a list of options for intervention in Kosovo that could soon lead to a count-down for military action involving the threat of airstrikes and the deployment of more than 20,000 troops.

The alliance's policy co-ordination group was yesterday given one week to come up with a final plan which is expected to include an ultimatum to President Milosevic, the Serbian leader, to stop the violence in Kosovo or face direct action.

Richard Holbrooke, the American envoy sent to the region to try to end the violence in Kosovo, said in Serbia that it was like being back in wartime Vietnam.

After seeing the destruction in Kosovo and meeting two uniformed fighters from the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), Mr Holbrooke said: "I felt like I was going back into the rice paddies of the Mekong Delta and seeing the same tragic scenario playing itself out."

Nato military planners have spent the past two weeks studying options for action but yesterday alliance ambassadors accelerated the process by asking for a detailed list of "graduated responses".

The policy co-ordination group will report to the ambassadors next Wednesday and if the repressive measures by Serbian forces continue unabated in Kosovo, Nato could soon become involved either as a deterrent force in the region or in an interventionist role.

Nato diplomatic sources

said the majority in the alliance did not want to be faced with only two options — to do nothing or to get involved in a war over Kosovo. The aim, they said, was to have number of flexible options.

At one end of the spectrum was airstrikes combined with a substantial deployment of troops on the Albanian border with Kosovo. Previous estimates of between 7,000 and 20,000 troops to act as a "preventive" force on the border are regarded as too low, and there are suggestions that at least 30,000 might be required.

The Nato ambassadors discussed some of the "fine detail" of the current military planning, including rules of engagement for allied troops and bomber pilots, and the contents of the warning that would be given to Mr Milosevic, "and who would deliver it".

There was also firm agreement that any action had to take into account the likely impact on the KLA as well as the Serbian forces.

Nato sought to quash any hopes among Kosovo separatists that the West would back their drive for independence and told Ibrahim Rugova, the leader of its ethnic Albanian majority, to start talking again with the Yugoslav Government.

Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, delivered the forceful message to Dr Rugova in Brussels. The ethnic Albanian leader was told that Nato was "categorically against independence" for the province.



A Kosovo Liberation Army fighter crosses a river on the frontier between Albania and Kosovo to rejoin the intense fighting in the province

## Rebels capture mine in Serb heartland

THE Kosovo Liberation Army seized an open-cast coalmine on the outskirts of the capital, Pristina, yesterday, striking at the province's Serb heartland. Its capture delivered a powerful message to Belgrade that the conflict has reached a dangerous dimension.

The KLA has shown that it can cut off Kosovo's key roads at will, but this is the first time it has overrun a big industrial asset. The Belacevac mine lies a mile from Kosovo's main power plant and its capture is a psychological blow as the June 28 anniversary of the 1389 battle of Kosovo Polje nears. That marked the start of the Serb retreat north from the Turks; 609 years later, the struggle with ethnic Albanians has an ugly symmetry for Europe's most insecure and paranoid nation.

Loss of strategic coal pit is a severe blow for Belgrade, writes Tom Walker



It is unclear why the Serbs allowed the rebels to gain control of such a strategic area. There are two army bases within five miles of Belacevac, and yesterday MiG fighters and Yugoslav Army helicopters flew over the broad valleys on either side of the mine's elevated plateau. In the KLA offensive, the rebels took

at least nine Serb mine-workers hostage. The fall of Belacevac coincided with the visit of Richard Holbrooke, the American peacebroker, to Kosovo. Any retaliation against the Kosovars would have been embarrassing for President Milosevic, who is desperate to avoid Nato airstrikes.

they are not a big group of terrorists. They are trying to provoke fighting, but they have no real training."

According to the mayor, Belacevac produces brown coal worth DM250 million (£86 million) a year. Although he put a brave face on the loss, he denied that the guerrillas could deprive the Obilic power station of coal and disrupt Pristina's power supply. He claimed that most of the electricity generated in the area was exported to Greece, Albania and Macedonia. However, the local manager of Electroprivreda Serbia, was called to an emergency meeting in Belgrade.

Mr Milosevic confirmed that celebrations to mark the great battle of 1389 would go ahead, despite the military setback just up the road.

## Spirited exiles heed the call to arms

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN BAJRAM CURRI, NORTHERN ALBANIA

THE realities of northern Albania can bring about many changes in a man, and the young Kosovo Liberation Army recruit drinking beer in the street in Bajram Curri was barely recognisable as the youth who had flown into Tirana from Frankfurt a few days earlier.

On the plane, drunk on champagne and naive braggadocio, he had talked loudly and proudly of his wish to fight the Serbs for his Kosovo homeland. Having next taken the arduous route north to Europe's poorest quarter, bought his Kalashnikov and received four days' training in how to use it, his bravado had gone. But his belief in his cause was undiminished.

He said: "For the first time we have the chance to fight for what is ours, and I shall not let my people down."

The Kosovo Liberation Army is one of the world's most disorganised and incompetent rebel forces, lacking all but the most rudimentary structure, suffering logistical shortages in everything besides assault rifles and ammunition, and beset by local rivalries. But it may prove the main stumbling block to Nato's hopes for stabilisation in Kosovo.

Until this spring, the KLA posed little threat to Serb forces and consisted mainly of men armed with shotguns and pistols. Had Serbia tried to negotiate with Kosovo moderates, the KLA could have withered and died. In the wake of the recent Serbian offensive, however, its ranks have swollen tenfold at the expense of any hope for a diplomatic compromise.

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# Tiananmen was huge error, says ex-party chief

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BEIJING

IN AN embarrassing move for President Jiang Zemin on the eve of the arrival in China today of President Clinton, a former Chinese Communist leader has reportedly called the Tiananmen Square massacre "one of the biggest human rights problems this century".

Zhao Ziyang, 78, the former party general secretary who was toppled from power for sympathising with students in the square, has revived the issue of the June 1989 killings at a delicate time for China's leaders. They had been hoping that, with Mr Clinton's high-profile welcoming ceremony in Tiananmen Square, they had quelled international outrage and put the issue behind them.

has been accused of kowtowing to the Chinese leadership, although his aides say he will speak out on human rights during his nine-day state visit. "This is potentially embarrassing to Jiang and to Clinton," said one Western diplomat. "It brings the issue of Tiananmen back to the forefront of international scrutiny at a time both leaders are eager to play it down. Mr Zhao has shown courage in raising this now and may have to pay for it."

From his walled, heavily guarded home in central

Beijing, where he has been held under increasingly strict house arrest for the past nine years, Mr Zhao, in a letter sent secretly this month and seen by Reuters news agency, urged China's leaders to admit the crackdown was a mistake.

Once the second most powerful man in China, the former Communist Party chief wrote: "While Clinton's visit marks a turning point in Sino-US relations, Beijing's leaders should admit their errors and sweep away an obstacle to better international relations."

"The United States and the whole of the West have again and again raised the June 4 [1989] problem and the human rights problem of China," Mr Zhao reportedly wrote. "It can be said that China's June 4 problem is one of the biggest human rights problems of this century."

China's leaders insist the decision to send troops storming into the square was taken to put down a "counter-revolutionary rebellion" that was aimed at overthrowing the Government. But Mr Zhao urged his successors, led by Mr Jiang, to do an about-face and resolve the Tiananmen issue this century. "In the past, the Communist Party of China has rectified many historical



Stars and Stripes go on sale at a department store in Beijing yesterday on the eve of President Clinton's arrival in China for a state visit



Zhao: decried massacre

Mr Clinton, who will hold talks with Mr Jiang on strategic issues including Taiwan, is the first US President to visit China since the assault by the People's Liberation Army on the square, and his own agreement to take part in a welcoming ceremony there has been dogged by controversy in the US Congress.

President Clinton, once a staunch opponent of dictators from "Baghdad to Beijing",

mistakes," wrote Mr Zhao, who is almost certain to face even further restrictions on his limited freedom. "Now we are facing the arrival of a new, open, democratic and information-age era. What reason do we have to reject the will of

the people, cling to the June 4 problem and block our road to democratic politics?"

Ding Zilin, whose 17-year-old son was killed in Tiananmen Square by an army bullet and who acts as spokesperson for other griev-

ing parents, said that she was gratified to learn of Mr Zhao's letter. "I have been looking forward to such a day for a long time," said Mrs Ding, 62. "This makes me confident about the future."

Even as President Clinton

left Washington, he was expressing irritation at the withdrawal of visas of three journalists working for Radio Free Asia. Xu Wenli, one of China's few remaining rights activists still at liberty, said that the denial of visas showed

the Chinese Government's narrow-minded attitude. □ Dissident held: Police last night detained Li Xiaolong, 34, a dissident in the southern city of Guilin, a renowned beauty spot which Mr Clinton is due to visit next week. (Reuters)

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Pritchard's view of the crisis in Ottawa's *The Citizen*

## Aids may rival Black Death

BY HELEN RUMBELOW

AIDS has killed nearly 12 million people and continues to cut such a grim swath that it will soon rival the Black Death and Spanish influenza, according to a United Nations report.

The spread of the disease is uneven, however. Although AIDS is retreating in Western countries, it is ravaging Africa and other developing nations more fiercely than ever, accounting for 90 per cent of all cases and most of the 2.3 million deaths from AIDS last year.

The same picture is true of one of the world's other big killers: road accidents. Traffic will soon become the third biggest cause of death in the world, moving up from ninth to overtake war, tuberculosis and AIDS, according to a Red Cross report.

However, 70 per cent of all road deaths happen in developing countries. In Ethiopia, traffic deaths are a hundred times higher than in Britain, and the accidents cost developing countries \$53 billion (£33 billion) a year, almost as much as all the aid they receive. Many of the accident victims in developing countries are pedestrians knocked down on roads overcrowded by animals and bicycles as well as cars.

Aids is also now on the verge of moving into the top five causes of death, already killing more than malaria, according to the latest *World Health Report*. In Western Europe, new AIDS cases fell to below 15,000 last year from a peak of 25,000 in 1994.

But the UN report was one of the most pessimistic since AIDS was first recognised in 1981. Worldwide, 5.6 million people were infected last year, with nearly 31 million infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. In Botswana and Zimbabwe, one in every four adults is HIV-positive.

The Black Death of the 14th century killed 20 million people, a quarter of Europe's population, in four years, and the Spanish influenza of 1918-19 killed 20 million in a year.

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British envoy to lead EU mission to Timor  
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# Blair accused on Nigeria link

## British envoy to lead EU mission to Timor

By DAVID WATTS

THE British Ambassador to Indonesia will lead a European Union delegation to East Timor on Saturday in the first such high-level mission to the disputed territory.

Robin Christopher will be accompanied by envoys representing the past and future presidencies of the Union.

The mission is expected to attract demonstrations across the territory in the new atmosphere of openness since President Suharto resigned last month.

The visit comes after an offer of the "gradual" withdrawal of forces from the territory by President Habibie. The offer came in unprecedented talks he held with Carlos Belo, the East Timorese Roman Catholic bishop and Nobel laureate.

After a two-hour meeting with Dr Habibie held at the President's initiative, Bishop Belo said: "They will study the issue and little by little they will withdraw."

Bishop Belo praised Dr Habibie and said he hoped for "a new starting point" for his people. But he said the two did not discuss Dr Habibie's offer of autonomy.

A senior Indonesian official said yesterday in Singapore that the Government is planning to introduce a Bill of Rights to give equal rights to all its citizens, including ethnic Chinese.

## Rights campaigners fear Britain has jeopardised prisoners' release, write

Sam Kiley and Michael Dynes

NIGERIA'S pro-democracy leaders yesterday bitterly condemned Tony Blair's decision to send a Foreign Office minister to meet the country's military leader tomorrow as a "premature move which could relieve pressure on the regime to release political prisoners like Chief Moshood Abiola".

Gani Fawehinmi, co-ordinator for the Joint Actions Committee on Nigeria, said he was "disappointed and saddened" by Mr Blair's decision to send Nigeria's diplomatic isolation and send Tony Lloyd, the minister responsible for Africa, to Nigeria.

During a six-minute telephone conversation with General Abdulsalam Abubakar, Nigeria's new military leader, Mr Blair welcomed the recent release of political prisoners while calling for Nigeria's swift return to democracy.

General Abubakar is anxious to find a way to release Chief Abiola and hand over to civilian rule, and has met him three times for secret talks. Sources close to the presidency said they talked late into the night on Sunday and met again for breakfast at the Aso Rock presidential palace in Abuja, the capital, on Monday. There was widespread speculation that Chief Abiola would be released from four years in prison within days.

Mr Blair agreed to send Mr Lloyd to discuss the prospects for a return to civilian rule. The move has the full backing of the European Union. Mr Lloyd's visit will be the first to Nigeria by a British minister since November 1996.

Defending Mr Blair's decision to take advantage of this "window of opportunity", the Foreign Office said yesterday that "there is still a great deal to do", but added: "We recognise that there is now a chance for something significant."

Yesterday Dupe Onitiri-Abiola, a wife of Chief Abiola, said she expected General Abubakar to release her husband, the presumed winner of the annulled 1993 presidential elections, "before the end of the month, possibly even before the end of the week".

But Mr Fawehinmi, who was detained ten times by General Abubakar's predecessor, Sani Abacha, who died on June 8, insisted that the overture to the Nigerian junta could jeopardise the chances of more than 300 political



Pro-democracy demonstrators in Lagos chant in support of Chief Moshood Abiola's release. They include one of his wives, Onitiri, left

prisoners being released. "Only nine prisoners, less than 10 per cent, have been released. Pressure has been building up domestically and internationally on Abubakar to let others go. If the British visit goes ahead, this will do a great deal to relieve this pressure. The man at the centre of the storm, Moshood Abiola, is still in detention and it is inconceivable that the British Government should have been so hasty."

The main thrust of General Abubakar's talks with Chief Abiola, and wider consultations hurriedly carried out by senior officers throughout Nigeria, has been aimed at establishing whether it would be possible to release the chief while still keeping him from claiming the presidency.

The responses at "workshops" all over Nigeria is that it is unlikely that Nigerians would accept anything less than his return as President.

Jacob, the umbrella group of pro-democracy groups led by Mr Fawehinmi, resolved on Tuesday to give General Abubakar until the end of the week to release Chief Abiola or face a wave of "mass actions and strikes".

Mrs Onitiri-Abiola, who has led the campaign for her husband's release since his murder two years ago, insisted that he would not agree to any freedom-for-retirement deal.



Abiola: pressure for release mounting

## Adultery no crime for Turkish women

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

TURKEY'S Constitutional Court has ruled that adultery is no longer a crime for women. The ruling means that women no longer face a jail sentence of up to three years for betraying their husbands.

The judges, voting by 9-2, said that since the custodial sentence for male adulterers had been annulled from the statutes, to send women to jail

for the same offence violated the constitutional principle of equality before the law.

While the ruling is being seen as a victory for common sense, it is also a rebuke for the Turkish parliament. It had failed to comply with a court instruction to correct within 12 months the legal anomaly created in 1996 when the judiciary ruled in favour of the male right to philander. At the time, Isilay Saygin, Turkey's Minister for Women and Family Affairs, caused

some controversy when she suggested that parliament should resolve the legal contradiction by bringing back penalties for men.

This year women's groups expressed their exasperation with Ms Saygin after she disputed another court ruling that limits the right of the courts and state institutions to demand virginity tests. Ms Saygin said that being a virgin was good enough for her and should be the case for other unmarried women.

The minister, however, appears to be going against the tide. Nuket Sirman, an anthropologist at Bosphorus University, said that this week's ruling was a sign of the modernisation of sexual mores in Turkey. "Divorce is now becoming less an issue of revenge than of personal adjustment," she said, referring to the practice of estranged husbands and wives spying on one another with the aim of sending an erring partner to jail.



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# 'God's Banker' to be exhumed

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS  
IN ROME

THE body of Roberto Calvi, the Italian financier known as "God's Banker" who was found hanging beneath Blackfriars Bridge in London, is to be exhumed on the orders of a Rome judge trying to determine whether the chairman of Italy's largest private bank was murdered or committed suicide.

Judge Otello Lupacchini made the decision at the request of prosecutors investigating Calvi's bizarre death on June 18, 1982.

The order comes in the wake of an appeal by defence lawyers representing Flavio Carboni, an underworld figure who is appealing against his conviction for murdering the banker. They submitted evidence by British doctors who apparently concluded that Calvi took his own life.

Judicial sources said the body of the banker would be exhumed from his burial place at a village near Milan before September. Three court-ap-



Calvi: his pockets were stuffed with stones

pointed pathologists, two Italians and a German, will examine his remains to try to establish whether Calvi was conscious immediately before he died.

If it is determined that he was not conscious, then the suspicion that he was murdered would be heightened, while if he were found to have been conscious at the time then both suicide and murder would remain possible explanations, sources said. A British inquest first ruled that Calvi had taken his own life, but a second inquest, at the request of his relatives, delivered an open verdict.

Carboni and three other figures in the Mafia, including the boss, Pippo Calò, and Francesco Di Carlo, a supergrass who was given the sobriquet "Frank the Strangler" during his time in prison for other offences in Britain, were convicted last year of murdering Calvi for the Sicilian Mafia and sentenced to prison terms for the killing.

Carboni, who accompanied Calvi to London after his Banco Ambrosiano went bankrupt when the Vatican refused to bail him out, was described as the key man in the murder in which the banker's pockets were stuffed with 11lb of stones.

The prosecutors in Italy said the murder was carried out by the Camorra, the Neapolitan equivalent of the Mafia, at the request of Calò, the Cosa Nostra's representative in Rome.



Alydar's demise saw collapse of top stud farm

# Jury opens the stable door on death of stud

FROM TOM RHODES  
IN WASHINGTON

IT IS a case worthy of a Dick Francis mystery, involving a hallowed stud farm in Kentucky. Insurance claims to Lloyd's and the death of one of the greatest thoroughbred stallions.

A federal perjury trial opening in Houston, Texas, may provide some answers to the lingering questions that surround the mysterious 1990 demise of Alydar, the only horse to finish second in all three of America's Triple Crown races before becoming a breeding champion at stud.

The quandary at the heart of the case is whether the stallion was worth more dead than alive. On trial on two counts of perjury himself is a federal grand jury last year is Alton Stone, a former groom at the historic Calumet Farm in Lexington, Kentucky.

Alydar was put down after suffering a broken right hind leg on the only night that Mr Stone was watchman. It resulted in a \$36.5 million (£22

million) insurance payment, most of it from Lloyd's, when the farm was tumbling into bankruptcy.

At the time, the injury was ruled an accident, believed to have been caused when Alydar kicked his stable door. But John Veitch, the trainer, has challenged claims that the farm's chief creditor, First City Bank Corp of Texas, which collected \$20 million of the insurance, less than three weeks before Alydar's death, the bank had threatened to foreclose on the farm.

The case is part of a larger investigation into fraud at First City. Prosecutors have declined to reveal how the two cases sit together but Judge David Hittner broadened the scope of Mr Stone's trial at earlier proceedings to include the death of Alydar.

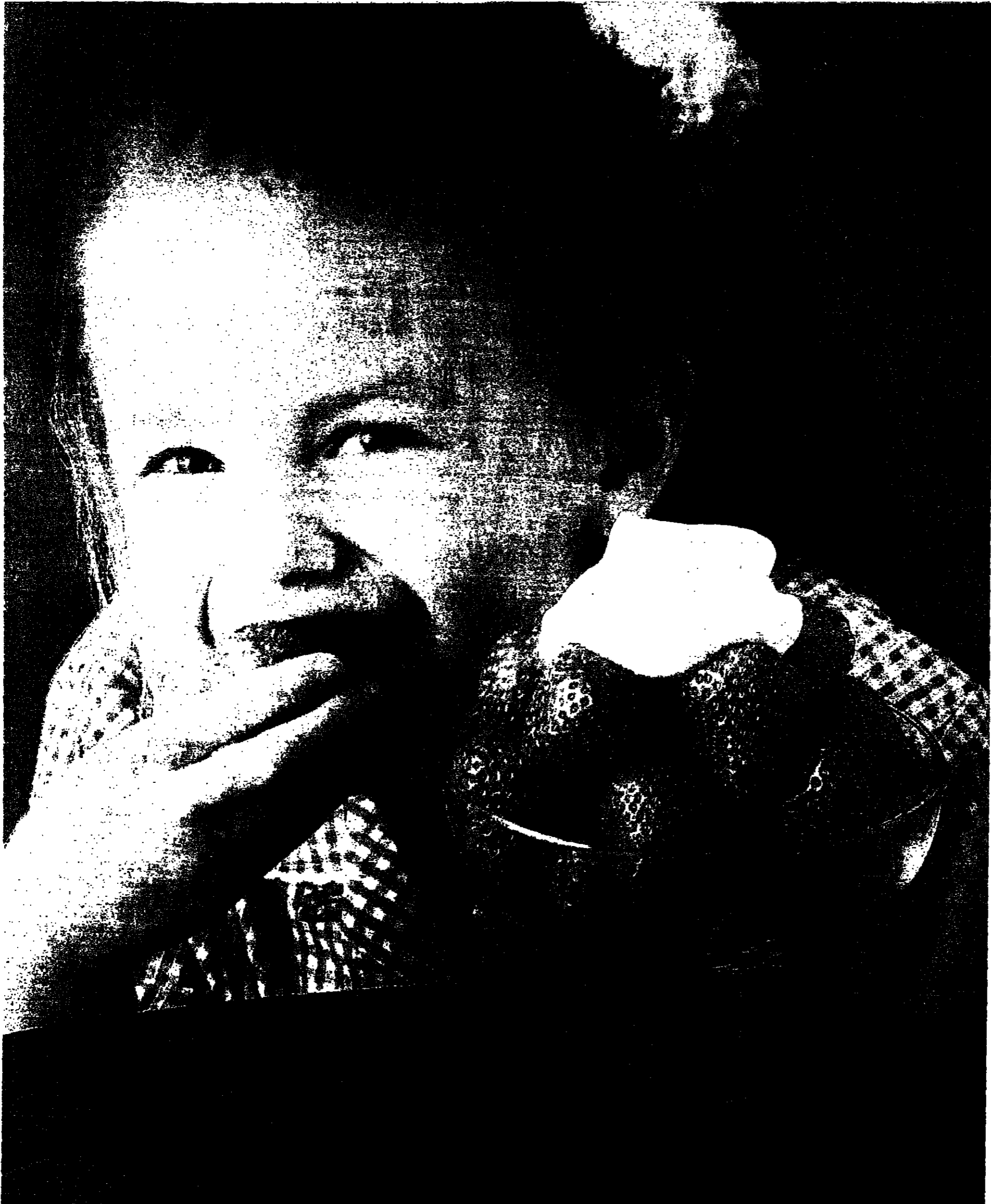
Mr Stone has said that he was asked by a colleague, Harold Kipp, to substitute him on the evening in question. But according to the prosecution brief, Mr Kipp will testify that he was told by an unnamed associate of Mr Lundy to take the night off.



Stone: former groom

## MARKS & SPENCER STRAWBERRIES

### The Cream of the Crop.



# Brussels blasts Gallic passion for bird hunts

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission finally ran out of patience yesterday with France's excessive appetite for shooting birds and opened two actions against Paris for defying a 19-year-old European Union law on conservation.

The actions, which include a request to the European Court to impose a rolling fine on France of £75,000 a day, came a week after the French parliament bowed to the powerful hunting lobby and extended the country's already long hunting season.

The passage of the Bill sparked a bitter political row and drew outrage from other EU states. French hunters will now be entitled to kill thousands more ducks, geese, woodcock and other birds during their early summer and autumn migrations.

The Commission's actions reflect exasperation over France's longstanding refusal to apply EU bird conservation laws. Brussels notified France that it would be taken to the Luxembourg court if it failed to bring its hunting seasons into line with the 1979 directive. That sets dates to allow the safe passage of migratory birds.

The dates for closing the hunting season in France are

too late and pose a threat to the conservation of species," said the Commission. "With hunting seasons of up to seven and a half months, France has by far the longest hunting seasons in the European Union." The parliament's extension, which added an extra six weeks to the season for migratory water birds in the summer and an extra month in early spring, would only compound the breach, it said.

The other action seeks the imposition of the rolling fine to force France to abide by a 1988 court ruling which found that it was failing to protect nests, eggs and the breeding grounds of wild birds.

Aware that it was feeding French anger over Brussels interference in Gallic tradition, the Commission emphasised that it had nothing against hunting. Shooting birds in the right conditions was "an activity with a positive contribution to make to conservation", it said. It also pointed out that the French Government had been in the EU chair when the 1979 law was passed unanimously.

The Commission action raises pressure on the Government of Lionel Jospin, which is already embarrassed by the parliament's action.

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New jets enable Israelis to hit Iran

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# New jets enable Israelis to hit Iran

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S potential for launching "over-the-horizon" attacks against missile or nuclear sites in Iran, Libya and Iraq increased substantially yesterday with the surprise announcement that the first of its new F15I long-range strike aircraft are operational.

# Wodehouse war letters for sale

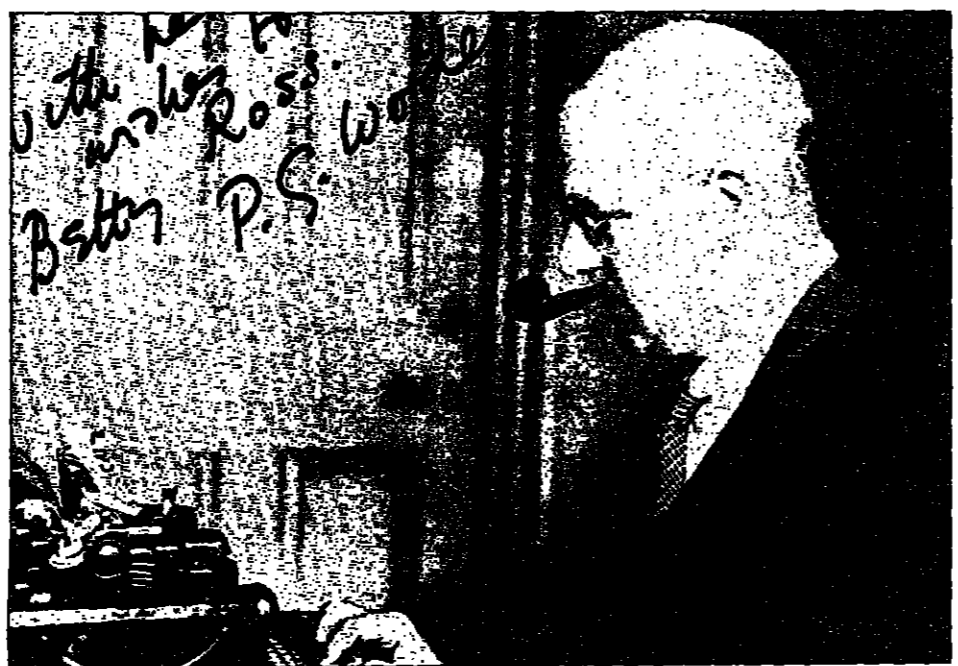
A REMARKABLE trove of unpublished letters, written from a Berlin hotel by a war-weary P. G. Wodehouse, will be sold at auction in New York tomorrow by Sotheby's as part of the largest-ever sale of Wodehouse memorabilia.

**Correspondence from Berlin casts light on dark era, writes Tunku Varadarajan**

The 12 letters are addressed to Baroness Anga von Bodenhausen, a close friend of "Phum", at whose manor the writer was staying when he made his infamous broadcasts for Berlin radio. He made five recordings in all, after which the baroness went to Berlin herself and told officials that her guest would make no more recordings.

the Russians at Katyn. Writing on April 15, 1943, he says: "Yesterday I had a telephone call from the Ministry of Propaganda, asking me if I would join a party of writers who were being taken down to Smolensk to look at the corpses of those unfortunate Polish soldiers murdered by the Bolsheviks in 1940."

Much upset by reports of anti-Wodehouse sentiment back home, he continues: "I had to refuse, because of what would have been said in England, but I was very regretful that I couldn't go, as it would have been a great experience."



An inscribed photograph of P. G. Wodehouse, an item in the sale tomorrow

Saddam's hostages, page 23



Jiggs with Johnny Weissmuller and Maureen O'Sullivan in one of the many Tarzan films they made together

# Chimp outlives Tarzan and Jane

Now 61, a simian star looks back on a long career, Giles Whittell writes

AS FUNERAL plans are made for Maureen O'Sullivan, the actress who played Jane six times to Johnny Weissmuller's Tarzan, one of their former co-stars is relaxing in Palm Springs with no plans to attend.

Jiggs, who at 61 is said to be the world's oldest chimpanzee, would not have been welcome anyway. The ape, whose handler described him yesterday as "the last of the original simian icons of the Tarzan era", was loathed by O'Sullivan, and the feeling was mutual.

Chimps rarely live past 45, but a female fellow actor, Suzie, was 64 when she died two years ago. Jiggs and Suzie were among half a dozen similar-looking chimpanzees who understudied for each other in the Weissmuller Tarzan films of the 1930s and 1940s, creating the illusion of a single talented ape.

good — now he does it side-ways — and he smiled really good as well.

# Unabomber seeks book deal by post

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

THEODORE KACZYNSKI, the Unabomber who is serving a life sentence for killing three people and injuring 23 in an 18-year letter-bomb campaign against "the forces of technology", is trying to find a publisher for a book that would tell his own story of his trial.

York-based publisher has said that it is not interested. Bob Bender, a senior editor, said: "Do you think the world wants Theodore Kaczynski's view on Theodore Kaczynski? I kind of doubt it."

envelope bearing his name, his prison identity number and his jail address. It was reported to have been opened by Johanna Li, an assistant editor at the firm, who did not balk at handling a letter that bore the name of America's most notorious letter-bomber.

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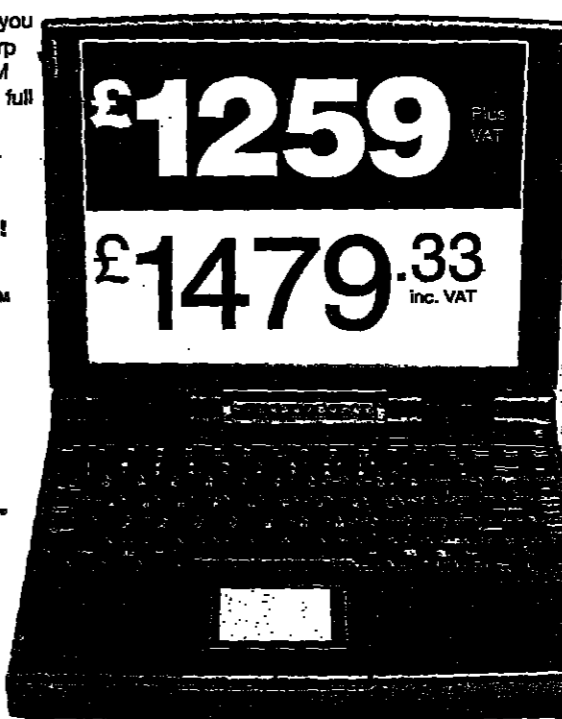
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# Snoring: a tennis ball can save your love life



**Dr Thomas Stuttford reports on snoring, eye defects, pregnancy tests, losing our voices and herbal drugs**

Some Wimbledon fans will not only be dreaming of tennis balls this month, they may feel one pressing into their backs — particularly if they have a tendency to snore.

The June edition of *The Practitioner* magazine has a comprehensive review of the medical implications and treatment of snoring. The report, written by Dr Patricia Stone of the Lung Function Unit, Wythenshawe, Manchester, includes the suggestion that sufferers should stitch a tennis ball into the back of tight-fitting pyjamas.

This, one of the age-old devices to stop people lying on their backs in bed, is apparently a useful means of preventing snoring because it can alter the sleep position even more effectively than a dig in the ribs from a partner.

A joke and become a tolerable nuisance, but after a short while it can cause serious marital disharmony.

Dr Stone's first two suggestions to heavy snorers, other than to get busy with the sewing kit and tennis balls, is to lose weight and to drink less alcohol. She suggests that drinking should be avoided after 6pm.

Weight reduction is important. A Michelin-man shape is not only the result of rolls of subcutaneous fat but is related to the fat deposited around the abdomen and elsewhere, including the neck.

Additional fat in the neck, which is known as retropharyngeal fat, acts like a soft tumour pressing on and narrowing the upper airways, thereby increasing the tendency to snore.

Snoring is only a symptom. The doctor's role is to find out why the patient is snoring, and then, if possible, to treat the underlying condition. Snoring is important, and there are good reasons why it needs treatment.

Without a comfortable night's sleep the patient will not be able to give of their best the next day, either at work or socially, and they may fall asleep at the wheel. Also, they are more likely to suffer high blood pressure and its consequences, including heart attacks and strokes.

The other reason for seeking treatment is that loud snoring is unlikely to endear the snorer to others, especially a regular partner. Snoring, and other nocturnal noises, may start as

of the tongue. Any other swellings in the throat and neck, including enlarged tonsils and some thyroid problems, can cause snoring. One interesting factor that tends to increase the likelihood of being a snorer is the shape of the jaw.

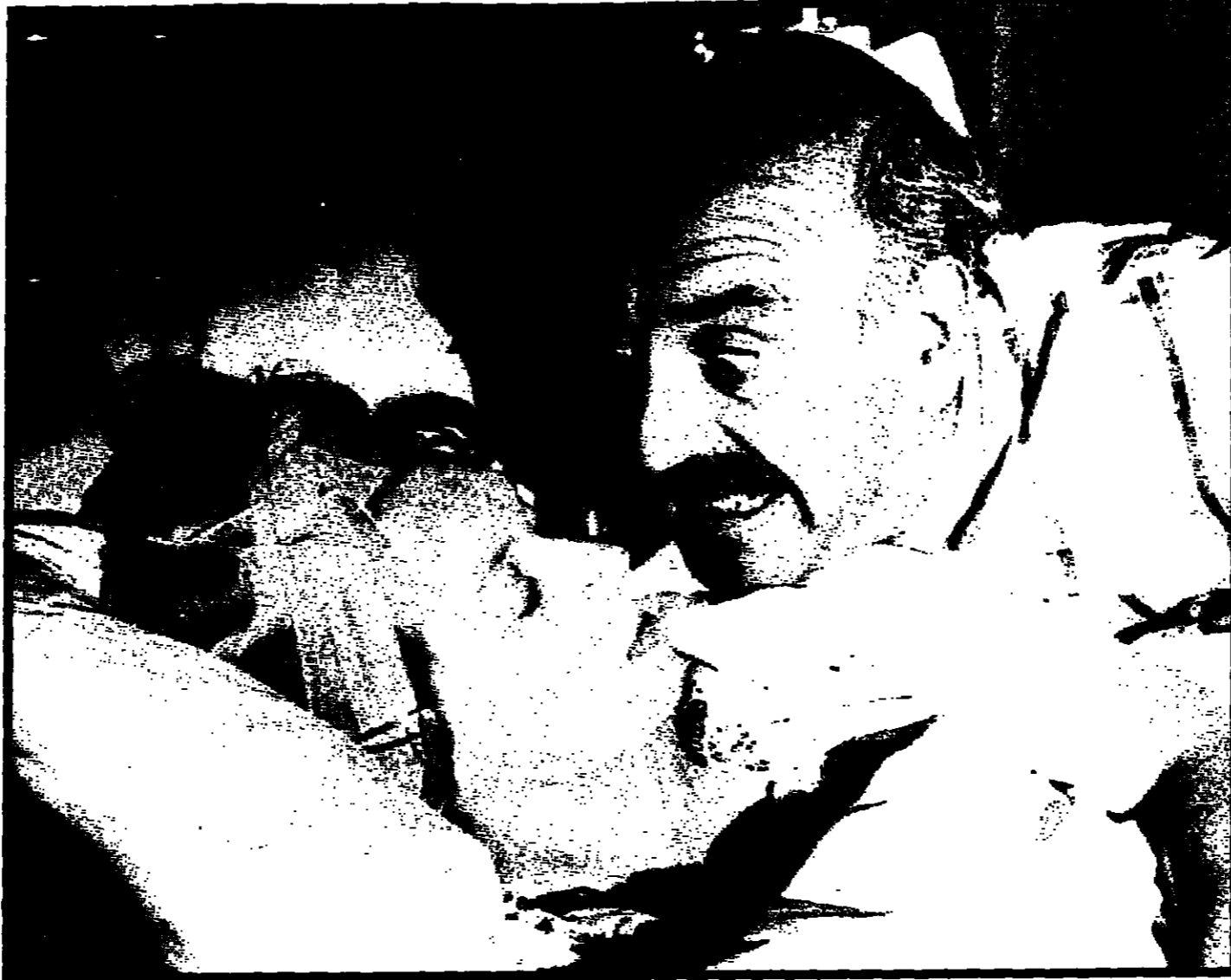
The chinless wonder so beloved by P.G. Wodehouse is likely to be a heavy snorer, since a receding lower jaw is associated with upper airway narrowing at the base of the tongue.

Simple snoring may be socially undesirable, but snoring secondary to sleep disorder is an important medical problem. This form of sleep disorder is of the crescendo type, where the noise grows louder and louder before there is silence and the patient ceases to breathe for a moment.

Previously it was thought that the inadequate sleep of the crescendo snorer was the result of these breathing pauses, but it is now thought that the patient is recurrently woken by the increased effort needed to breathe, hence the sleepiness next day.

The first step in more intensive treatment may be to recommend a continuous positive airway pressure machine. This involves the patient's head and neck being fitted with masks and tubes so that they look, rather unromantically, like a 1930s diver. Dental appliances can be attached so that the jaw is held forward.

Only rarely is surgery to the palate recommended, since trimming it only modifies one of the sites where the snore may have originated.



A turn-off: snoring may start off as a joke but it can indicate a serious medical disorder — and it often ruins close relationships

## Herbs are the root of good health

Kew's nosegay garden, next to Kew Palace in southwest London and part of the Queen's Garden, has been restored and, where necessary, replanted with the authentic contemporary herbs.

Anna Ford, the newscaster, opened the refurbished herb garden this week and now the public may wander through it just as if they were 17th-century apothecaries looking for ingredients for the medicines and nosegays of the time.

Modern sanitation and universal bathing facilities now make nosegays superfluous, but there is a growing interest in medicinal plants as a complement, or even an alternative, to modern drugs. Some plants are now providing the raw materials for 25 per cent of all pharmaceutical drugs.

This week there have been reports that the European yew and Pacific yew are valuable sources of anti-cancer drugs and that the much despised and luxuriant *Cupressus leylandii* may also have potent chemotherapeutic qualities.

There is no *Cupressus leylandii* casting a shadow over the nosegay garden. It contains a host of well-accepted herbal remedies such as foxgloves, mint, garlic and St John's wort, as well as those with names of a rather Shakespearean quality such as wormwood and lungwort.

The betting on the next herbs to rival St John's wort and Ginkgo biloba as popular remedies are valerian, a tranquillising and sedative plant, and lemon balm, which was used to settle the academic nerves of students, hence its name, "Scholar's Herb". Both are growing lustily.

## Toxins blamed for eye defects

In every 4,000 to 5,000 births, one baby will either be born with a tiny eye (microphthalmia), or virtually no eye at all (anophthalmia). Either both eyes may be affected or just one. If both eyes are involved, the result will be severely disturbed eyesight, or probably blindness.

Also, if the globe of the eye is missing, the orbit will fail to develop properly and the baby's face will be distorted. Fortunately, as the child grows, so "conformers", which help to ensure a normal development of the face, can be fitted into the orbit, and later an artificial eye.

The question is not just what can be done to improve the baby's sight; this has already been determined by the time of birth, or even how the facial

distortion may be minimised. Ophthalmologists and plastic surgeons have become skilled at doing this. The important question is: why are babies born with anophthalmia?

It is accepted that, as in many aspects of medicine, anophthalmia is the result of a combination of factors. The *British Medical Journal* suggested in 1993 that either eye defect may result from foetal damage as a result of chromosomal, genetic and environmental causes.

A study conducted at Edinburgh University among 200 Scottish children who had this disability showed that two-thirds of eyeless children also had other abnormalities.

An inherited disease could be responsible for the eye deformities in

these cases, but it is thought that they are more likely the result of a vulnerable foetus being exposed to an environmental toxin.

The culprits among the environmental pollutants have not been isolated, but the accusing finger of the green movement has pointed at fungicides and pesticides.

Those opposed to widespread chemical farming claim that the incidence of anophthalmia is more common in areas where there is widespread arable agriculture.

Britain uses more fungicides on its farms and in its gardens than many other countries because of our damp climate. The Scottish research workers have suggested that when the

unborn baby is unusually susceptible, some toxins may affect it even though they are present in the mother's blood in such small quantities that they cannot be measured.

This theory may be tested before a jury if three Scottish mothers whose babies were affected and who used a fungicide, Benlate, in their gardens, are allowed to sue the manufacturers in the American courts.

The Eyeless Trust is an organisation in Britain that ascertains where the affected children live, and helps to integrate them into everyday life. The information gained also provides valuable research data.

● The Eyeless Trust for Children Born without Eyes, 4 Garstons, Bathford, Bath BA1 7TE.

## Take five mice, one virgin rabbit or a toad...

TESTING for pregnancy has advanced in the 40 years since I qualified. Tests during early pregnancy were then so bizarre that it was simpler to gauge a woman's state from changes in her breasts, as well as by symptoms. Even in the 1950s the pregnancy test involved injecting the woman's urine for three consecutive days into five immature virgin female mice. Or a precipitate of female urine could be injected into the thighs of a virgin female rabbit, a female South African clawed toad or a British male toad.

The modern doctor is lucky: there is a simple, highly accurate one-step pregnancy test strip — the hCG-Test — which is dipped in the urine or blood serum, then carefully examined after five minutes. If one line shows across the reagent strip, the patient is not pregnant; if there is a double line, she is.

The test depends on the amount of hCG (a hormone secreted in pregnancy) in the urine. So sensitive is it that it will usually be positive even before the woman has missed a period.



Testing time: pregnancy checks used to be complicated

## Not in perfect voice

THE Foreign Secretary's voice was noticeably husky when speaking on the *Today* programme recently. Any doctor listening must have wondered which of the many possible causes had afflicted his laryngeal cords.

The most common cause is viral laryngitis, but in Robin Cook's case the cords may have been irritated by smoky conference rooms.

Vocal cords can suffer from repetitive strain injury in those who constantly have to talk. President Clinton's

voice, for example, has changed since he took office. Benign physical changes in the cords may cause hoarseness, as may lung cancer when a growth presses on the nerve leading to the larynx.

Writing in *The Practitioner*, Mr John Rubin, a consultant surgeon at the Royal National Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital in London, has suggested that patients with hoarseness that has not resolved within three weeks should be referred to an ear, nose and throat consultant.

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# Playing Cupid to the upper classes

Heather Heber Percy's clients pay £6,000 a year to meet the right people. Moira Petty reports

The bow and arrows wielded by professional Cupid, Heather Heber Percy, come gold-plated. She is a matchmaker to millionaires, weeding out fortune hunters and those lacking the requisite social graces, to provide the perfect mate for love-lorn members of the upper classes.

Being in possession of a fortune or a title is not an automatic route to romance. "The wealthy create their own prisons for themselves. They live behind electronic gates. I meet people who've created what looks like paradise from the outside but it's an empty shell," says Heather, who is the subject of a Radio 4 *Matchmakers* documentary tomorrow.

Having been in the dating agency business since 1983, Heather decided four years ago that the ultra wealthy needed a bespoke service of their own. To her introduction agency Country Partners, which offers a discreet pre-a-porter service at £450 a year, she added a couture equivalent, The County Register.

For £6,000 a year clients are offered a made-to-measure arrangement in which she travels the country, looking for prospective partners beyond the usual reservoir of people who offer themselves to dating agencies. She finds them by placing a carefully worded advertisement about her client, omitting overt references to bank balances or estates in *Debut*, and inviting those who meet the specifications to contact her.

"Clients would find it unacceptable if I offered them someone who couldn't socialise in the same milieu as them," Heather says. "The great divide seems to be whether they have been to public school or not. We work with minor aristocrats and titled people as well as the upper-middle classes. They want to know how someone would behave. Do they refer to nappies or serviettes?"

One recent client is Anthony (who prefers not to give his surname), a handsome 56, he is an Old Etonian based in Florida, where he sells yachts "as a sort of hobby". A 15-year relationship ended last year and he was recommended to contact The County Register. "I'm not attracted to American ladies," he says. "I have a glamorous and substantial lifestyle, but I travel a lot and wasn't meeting the right people."

After a couple of months, he met a



Heather Heber Percy says her clients, like most people, want to find companionship and love: "Even millionaires need someone in their lives"

London-based interior designer and property developer — "And we're madly in love. She is upper middle-class, went to Roedean, and is bright, witty and attractive. She wants children so I want to give it another six months to see if I can make that commitment."

Heather has 28 clients on the Herefordshire-based register at the moment. If she feels she cannot help someone (if they are "unrealistic" about their age or

have not come to terms with bereavement or divorce) she will not take them on. A Sixties model who at 53 is a slim, elegant blonde, she has learnt from her three marriages. She was too young at 19 when she married for the first time. Her second marriage to Cyril Heber Percy, who is descended from the First Earl of Beverley, also ended in divorce. Their children are Tamara, 25, and Zara, 21. "In hindsight I feel responsible and I'm

sorry he lost his children. It's too easy to walk away from relationships." For eight years she has been happily married to businessman Carl Hague.

In addition to her own experiences, Heather, a former Samaritans counsellor, relies on rigorous interviewing and gut instinct. One (plain but larger than life) female client was cross when asked to travel from Warwickshire to see a widower in Northumberland.

"She said she'd collect her membership fee on the way back if he was useless," Heather says. "We didn't hear from her and after two weeks we rang the man. She had never gone home. They married two months later."

Breeding does not always equal acceptable behaviour. One man seemed ideal for an upper-class client. "He insisted the first meeting should be in a motorway café, which isn't very romantic," Heather

says. "When he went to buy the teas, he stuffed his pockets full of individual milk cartons. The lady asked why and he said they were for his weekend guests."

A surprising number of hits are recorded within a short period. Dutch computer consultant Ernest, 45, married Beaufort Hunt member Hilty, 42, in 1991 after deciding that he wanted to establish "a base" to his life. "I thought dating agencies were for sad people who can't look after themselves, but a friend recommended Heather. She said it was quite normal, like consulting a doctor."

Initially, Ernest arrived for dates as if for a business meeting. Some of the women seemed "too available" until he met Hilty who shared his public school background and sporting interests. They married at the St James's Club in Antigua and now live in Herefordshire with their son Oliver, aged five, and are expecting a second baby.

Heather is as happy to deal with new money as old. One client she has just successfully matched is a top executive whose jetset schedule leaves no time for romance. Harriet, 53, is the vivacious director of a well-known clothing and accessories company. She divorced her husband in 1990 after 24 years of marriage and three daughters.

"I had been the classic white bride. Dating again was terrifying. I justified spending £6,000 because I knew it would save me endless problems. One friend spent more than that on a cooker and another on a facelift. My daughters think it is the best investment I've ever made."

Harriet met about two new men a month — "it was like being a child in a sweetie shop". Her partner, a semi-retired business consultant and "country gentleman" of 63, was the one she liked least on first meeting. "He was edgy. I thought he was uncomfortable with me rather than the situation. Now it feels easy and relaxed, but it is early days."

Heather Heber Percy may deal with high-flyers but their needs are universal. "No matter how grand they are, they all need to be wanted and cherished, to find companionship and love. Even millionaires need someone in their lives."

● The Millionaires' Matchmaker, is on Radio 4, tomorrow at 3pm.

## Deadly legacy stalks victims of Saddam

Grace Bradberry on how former hostages can still suffer

Seven years after the surrender of Iraq, the Gulf War has claimed another victim. Brian James, 47, committed suicide in April. The inquest this week heard that his life had fallen apart after he was held hostage as part of Saddam Hussein's "human shield".

Mr James had been head of treasury sales for the Gulf Bank in Kuwait when the Iraqis invaded in 1990. He was held for four months. Once, he was put in front of a firing squad that then fired blanks at him.

He appeared to recover and returned to work in the Middle East, but late last year he gave up his job. Then began the spiral of depression that led him to take an aspirin overdose on Ilkley Moor overlooking his childhood home in Bradford.

Mr James is not the first of

the human-shield victims to suffer severe after-effects. The potential damage was recognised in 1991, when Dr Jeffrey Easton, Sir Edward Heath's personal physician, produced a report giving a warning that as many as a quarter of the 1,200 Britons held were still in need of care. About a quarter had continuing poor health and depression, including nightmares and flashbacks. More than a fifth of married victims said their marriages had been adversely affected.

The Government at the time pledged an extra £70,000 for the psychiatric treatment of about 50 former Gulf War hostages, and announced the establishment of a new central psychiatric unit at the Maudsley Hospital, London.

It has not been enough. According to Stephen Brookes, who runs the Gulf Support Group, four men



Human shield: the moment when Stuart Lockwood was seen with Saddam on TV

have killed themselves, at least 30 have died of stress-related illnesses, and there have been more than 380 marriage breakdowns.

"I recently wrote to Tony Blair about the problems. He replied that the £2,500 paid to people in compensation was a reasonable amount."

In his letter, the Prime Minister pointed out that taxpayers' money could not be used to indemnify UK nationals against the risk of living or owning assets overseas.

Among those who continue to suffer is Maria Jasim, 38, who now lives in Swansea. At the time of the war she was living in Kuwait and was told she could not take her baby daughter out of the country. She was detained, alone, on a university campus.

"I've seen a psychiatrist and so has my seven-year-old daughter. I haven't been able to sleep and I've developed an eating disorder. I have terrible flashbacks. I've contemplated suicide, but then I look at my

daughter and mother, who has Alzheimer's, and they're so vulnerable I feel I have to keep going."

One of the early casualties was Clive Stringer, a 47-year-old father of two who shot himself in 1991, just months before his 25th wedding anniversary.

Mr Stringer, who worked for Kuwait Airways, had appeared unchanged when he first returned to England. His wife Pauline soon realised that he had lost his confidence and was haunted by the months he had spent locked up at a plant near Baghdad.

Most of those taken hostage in the Gulf have no chance of claiming compensation. Jerry and Jackie Blears, however, are bringing a case against the Ministry of Defence on behalf of their children, Rachel, 13, and Colin, 17. They were living at a military camp in Kuwait when the Iraqis invaded. Rachel saw her

father marched away at gunpoint, and the nightmare culminated with the bizarre televised tea party with Saddam Hussein. Rachel was paraded before television cameras, as was Stuart Lockwood, then only five. This became the defining image of the human shield.

The claim, lodged three months ago, centres on the orders the MoD gave to stay put rather than evacuate. There is now a parliamentary inquiry taking place.

Dr David Reiss, lecturer in victimology at the Traumatic Stress Service of the Maudsley Hospital, says there are no quick fixes for those still suffering. "People who experience a severe threat can undergo major personality changes. They can experience problems with personal relationships, considerable anger and irritability, mood disturbances and problems holding down a job. Treatment would be over a considerable period of time."

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE June 24: His Excellency Monsieur Ibrahim Sylla was received in audience by The Queen today and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Republic of Guinea to the Court of St James's. Madame Sylla was also received by Her Majesty.

Royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, will open the new British Library, Euston Road, London NW1, at 11.00.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal College of Psychiatrists was held at the Waterfront Centre, Exeter, on Wednesday, June 24, 1998.

Society of Young Freemen

The following have been elected officers of the Society of Young Freemen for the ensuing year: Chairman, Miss Vicki Hall; Vice Chairman, Mrs Fiona Donovan.

New sheriffs

Mr Gavin Farr Arthur and Mr Brian Nicholas Harris were elected Sheriffs for the City of London at Guildhall yesterday.

CLARENCE HOUSE June 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited Giron College, Cambridge, to mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of women being granted full membership of the University of Cambridge.

KENSINGTON PALACE June 24: The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon opened Little Haven Children's Hospice, Benfleet, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Essex (the Lord Braybrooke).

ST JAMES'S PALACE June 24: The Duke of Kent, Honorary Air Commodore, Royal Air Force Leuchars, this afternoon visited the Station in the Eightieth Anniversary Year of the Royal Air Force.

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor, University of Cambridge, this morning visited the Department of Biochemistry, Cambridge. His Royal Highness afterwards conferred Honorary Degrees at the Honorary Degree Congregation at the Senate House.

Banquet

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave a state banquet last night at the Mansion House to the Archbishops, Bishops and Clergy of the Anglican Communion at home and overseas.

Service dinner

Mountain Arillery Lord Templeman was the principal guest at the 50th annual dinner of the Mountain Arillery Dinner Club held last night at the Army and Navy Club.



A Maori dance group, Ngati Ranaana, performing a dawn opening ceremony yesterday at the British Museum for the first exhibition there devoted to the history, arts and culture of the Maori people.

Birthdays today

Dame Margaret Anstey, former Under-Secretary General, United Nations, 72; Mr Peter Blake, painter, 66; Sir Jack Boles, former Director-General, National Trust, 73; Rear-Admiral Richard Cobbold, 80; Sir Alton Collins, former chairman, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, 78; Sir Robin Dent, banker, 69; Mr Cyril Flecher, broadcaster, 85; Mr Derek Foster, MP, 61; Mrs Margaret Gray, former Headmistress, Godolphin and Laymer School, 85; General Sir Roland Gray, 70; Mr Eddie Large, comedian, 51; Mr Sidney Lumet, film director, 74; Mr George Michael, singer, 35; Mr R.M. Morgan, Warden, Radley College, 58; The Hon Sir Charles Morrison, former MP, 66; Sir Gerard Neale, former MP, 57; Sir Kenneth, Oxford, former Chief Constable, Merseyside, 74; Lord Ravensdale, 75; Mr Larry Smith, trade unionist, 75; Mr Robert Venturi, architect, 73; Miss Doreen Wells, ballerina, 61; Canon K.H. Wilkinson, Head Master, King's School, Canterbury, 80; Professor Sir Arnold Wolfendale, FRS, former Astronomer Royal, 71.

Service luncheon

Royal Scots Dragon Guards The Duke of Kent, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, was present at a luncheon of the Royal Scots Dragon Guards held yesterday in Edinburgh Castle.

Luncheon

Carlton Club The Hon Francis Maude, MP, was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the political committee of the Carlton Club held yesterday at the club.

Reception

HM Government Mr Nigel Griffiths, Minister for Competition and Consumer Affairs, was the host at a reception given yesterday by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House for the 1998 Institute of Trading Standards conference.

Were people from Argentina first to the Falklands?

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

ENVIRONMENTAL research is forcing archaeologists to revise accepted ideas about the first human settlement of two of the world's most remote island groups.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Horne Tooke, politician and philologist, London, 1736; Robert Erskine Childers, Irish nationalist and author of The Riddle of the Sand, London, 1870; Louis Mountbatten, 1st Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Victoria of India 1947, Windsor, 1900; George Orwell (Eric Blair) writer, Motihari, India, 1903.

The new evidence takes the form of charcoal fragments from a peat deposit on Sapper Hill, above Port Stanley. The presence of delicately charred fragments such as buds of the diode-dee, and stems and seeds of grasses "suggest light burns of surface vegetation and not deep fires into the peat", the investigators say.

In New Zealand the case is the culmination of human penetration of the Pacific Basin. Polynesian navigators had mastered canoe voyages northwards to Hawaii by AD 200 and east to Easter Islands by AD 300, and some radiocarbon evidence suggested that a southward move out of the Society Islands to New Zealand may have taken place by AD 500.

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Dinners

British Museum The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present at the annual dinner of the British Museum held last night at the museum.

University news

Oxford The Geoffrey Hill Spray Prize in clinical biochemistry for 1998 has been awarded to Mr David Frank Law, Wolfson College.

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BIRTHS ASLEY MILLER - On June 21st to John and Paula, a son, Christopher. HOLLAND - On June 19th to Melaine (nee Carey) and William, a brother for Cathryn. BARCLAY - On June 20th 1998 in Singapore to Isabel (nee Barlow) and Michael, a daughter. BRANHAM - On June 19th to Karen (nee Potts) and Tim, a beautiful daughter. BROADBENT - On June 20th 1998, to Clary (nee Thompson) and James, a daughter. CHAPPEL - On June 13th 1998 at the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth, to Lisa and Paul, a beautiful son. COUCH - On June 22nd at the Portland Hospital to Paula and Ian, a son. DEATHS ALEXANDER - Mary Crawford (nee Connors) beloved wife of Douglas, passed away peacefully at home after a long illness.

ALLEN - Professor Henry Cranbeck Allen died peacefully on 21st June 1998 in Philadelphia, U.S.A., aged 81. BARNETT - Margaret Ellen loved mother of Juliet, and widow of the late Peter, died peacefully on 23rd June 1998 at St. Mary's Church, Exeter, aged 82. BENNETT - On June 22nd 1998, peacefully, George Augustus, aged 90, of Northwood and Finner. BOWEN - On June 22nd 1998, peacefully, George Augustus, aged 90, of Northwood and Finner.

CHAPMAN - Elizabeth member of Baller Kombert. Died peacefully on 21st June 1998 in Devon aged 78. A much loved and respected man by all who knew him. CRISWELL - On June 22nd 1998, peacefully, George Augustus, aged 90, of Northwood and Finner. DAVIES - Edwin Thomas, on 19th June, Welsh Thomas, Monmouthshire, Wales, aged 82.

DANGERSFIELD - On June 19th 1998, peacefully, Major Michael Rolan, local historian. 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, aged 82. HAYES - Stuart Glen died peacefully at home on Sunday June 21st 1998 having bravely endured ill health with stoicism and good humour.

RUSSELL - Joan Margaret Dawson, peacefully at home on Sunday June 21st, aged 82. THORNTON - Kenneth Marcus on June 22nd peacefully at home in his 83rd year after a short illness. DEATHS WOOD - Hilda Grace, peacefully on 23rd June 1998 at Farnborough Nursing Home in her 88th year.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

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IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE DUMVILLE - Mabel. Remembering a much loved Mother on her birthday every day. Brenda, Ross and Paula.

OBITUARIES

MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN

Maureen O'Sullivan, Hollywood and Broadway actress, died on June 22 aged 87. She was born in Ireland on May 17, 1911.

Maureen O'Sullivan was probably irritated more by being remembered as the first talkie Jane to Johnny Weissmuller's Tarzan than by being thought of merely as Mia Farrow's mother. She was proud of having a beautiful and talented daughter, who achieved a much grander place in Hollywood than she ever did; but her stint in six Tarzan films only brought back memories of how she hated the chimpanzees, who often tried to bite her, and became very tired of comment on her skimpy costumes.



Maureen O'Sullivan with Johnny Weissmuller as Tarzan, and Skippy the chimp in 1936

She was indeed a much more capable and resourceful actress than the Tarzan films might lead one to believe. In appearance she was very gentle and fragile, but she could show an inner steel when the part required it, and when Mia Farrow's breakup with Woody Allen led to the airing of laundry-loads of dirty linen, she was fierce in her daughter's defence. O'Sullivan was the sort of performer who seems destined always to be playing the heroine's sister or best friend, or at least to be the female lead who inevitably is left back at the ranch when anything exciting is happening. Tarzan's Jane never had much to do except play the title housewife in the jungle and look pretty in a sarong. (Always in it, she insisted: swimming scenes with her apparently or actually naked were played by a body double.) Occasionally she was permitted to play up a bit more to her ostensible background, and even to wear stylish clothes in the films' brief urban episodes. But she was delighted to hang up her sarong for ever after Tarzan's New York Adventure in 1942.

At this point there was a six-year hiatus in her career: she was to bear seven children by her husband, the writer-director John Farrow, whom she had married in 1936. When she made her comeback in 1948, it was under his direction in the unremittingly intense film noir *The Big Clock*, which marked a major change in her screen persona, though it also signalled her relegation to smaller-scale films. Some of these, however, such as the Bud Boetticher Western *The Tall T* (1957), were highly distinguished.

Coming from an old Anglo-Irish family, Maureen O'Sullivan was born in Boyle, Co Roscommon and had a strict Roman Catholic upbringing in a London convent school and a Paris finishing school. When she was 18 her good looks were noticed by the American director Frank Borzage at the Dublin International Horse Show. As a result, she was signed up by

Fox and taken to Hollywood to appear in Borzage's second sound film, *Song O' My Heart* (1930). Fox gave her minor roles in several films — probably the most notable was *A Connecticut Yankee*, in which she provided the romantic interest for Yankee Will Rogers when he was transported back to King Arthur's Court — but really did not know what to do with her. Soon she transferred to MGM, where she had an immediate success with the first of the Tarzan films, *Tarzan of the Apes*, in 1932. At that time MGM was par excellence the studio of the glossy, well-upholstered period film, usually with some respectable literary antecedents, and O'Sullivan fitted perfectly into this framework, with her delicate features and quietly cultivated mid-Atlantic voice. On the other hand, she was not seen as quite the stuff of which heroines are made, and in any case, with the number of important ladies under contract to the studio, from Garbo, Crawford and Shearer down, it would have been difficult to find her appropriate leading roles. She was, however, perfect as Elizabeth Barrett in *The Barretts of Wimpole Street* (1934), as David's child-wife Dora in *David Copperfield* (1935), and as Kitty in the shadow of Garbo's Anna Karenina (1935). She was the female lead in Tod

SIR FOLEY NEWNS

Sir Foley Newns, colonial administrator and constitutional adviser, died on June 21 aged 89. He was born on January 30, 1909.



AS AN expert on constitutional practice, Sir Foley Newns helped to guide a number of former colonies as they gained their independence and became members of the Commonwealth, by laying out satisfactory British-derived rules for the conduct of government business. He made himself a great expert on the machinery of democracy but, rather than a political theorist or grand planner, he was a close observer and careful practitioner.

Alfred Foley Francis Polden Newns came from a deeply religious family with a strong missionary drive which was to influence all of his life. He was educated at Christ's Hospital and St Catharine's College, Cambridge, and then immediately joined the Colonial Service. He served in Nigeria from 1932 to 1959, later as secretary to the Governor-General and the Council of Ministers of the Nigerian Federation, but it was an attachment to the Colonial Office in London in 1951 that saw the genesis of his influence over the wider Commonwealth.

The Nigerians, in their very swift transition to independence, wished to follow British practice and so, on his return to Lagos, Newns wrote a memorandum on administrative procedures for them to follow. As well as being used in Nigeria, it was circulated to other territories.

But Newns's clear examination of the running of government in Britain — for which he was given extensive access to Whitehall departments and permitted to work in the private office of the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Norman Brook — demonstrated that Whitehall procedures are full of anomalies which, while preventing excessive centralisation of power, sometimes also

prevent efficient operation. Newns loved the Nigerians, and African people in general, and was very sad about the political degeneration after independence, which ended in the Biafran Civil War. He was particularly scathing about the way Western big business exploited Nigeria's oil reserves, while taking little responsibility for the local people.

In 1959 Newns moved from Nigeria to become deputy governor in Sierra Leone, where he introduced the Cabinet and ministerial system and remained as an adviser after independence. His precepts also influenced the structure of government in Tanzania, although he did not work there. Again in the Bahamas from 1963 to 1971, he organised the introduction of a Cabinet and of ministerial government, based on the new constitution, and served as secretary to the Cabinet.

During this period he summed up many of his conclusions in a *Manual of Cabinet and Ministry Procedure and Responsibilities*, which also advises on the preparation and enactment of legislation, the allocation of portfolios and on official and ceremonial occasions. It also gives classic definitions of collective Cabinet responsibility and the individual responsibilities of ministers.

He was a keen photographer, gardener and amateur astronomer and, living near Cambridge, a strong supporter of the alumni association of his old college. He also worked for local educational, arts and wildlife charities. His memoirs, which are presently in manuscript, are likely to be published in due course.

His first wife, Jean, died in 1984 after 48 years of marriage, and he married, secondly, Beryl Watles, in 1988. She survives him, with the son and daughter of his first marriage.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL HOWARD CADWALLADER

Air Vice-Marshal Howard Cadwallader CB, former director of purchasing at the Post Office, died on June 12 aged 79. He was born on March 16, 1919.



AFTER heading the RAF's supply organisation until 1974, Howard Cadwallader took on a similar role at the Post Office. As its controller of contracts, he handled a budget then running at up to £500 million a year for the purchase of anything from telephones to stamps and from the buttons for postmen's uniforms to cable-laying ships. At the same time he was responsible for the sale of surplus and obsolete equipment, including a great tonnage of lead-covered cable, which brought in several million pounds a year.

But Cadwallader was on familiar territory. One of his major achievements during more than 30 years in the RAF's equipment branch had been the computerisation of supply depots. After planning the change from Whitehall over a five-month period in 1968-69, he implemented it, as commandant of the supply control centre at RAF Hendon, over the next three years. He then returned to the Ministry of Defence as director of RAF movements throughout the world. His final posting in the service was to run the supply organisation as senior air staff officer in RAF Support Command.

Yet Howard George Cadwallader had originally wanted to be a fighter pilot. He had been born outside Johannesburg, South Africa, where his father served in the mounted police. The family, however, came originally from Bishop's Castle, Shropshire, and as a boy he returned to Britain to attend Hampton School in Middlesex. His mother came back at the same time, and his father joined them several years later. Cadwallader left school in 1936 and worked as a clergyman's assistant for three years before joining the RAF a month before the outbreak of war. Joining the equipment branch because his eyesight did not match the high standards required for air crew, he found himself in France within five months with the British Expeditionary Force. After being evacuated via Le Havre following the retreat of 1940, he was posted to West Africa, before returning in 1942 to a maintenance unit in Britain, where he spent the rest of the war.

Cadwallader had a couple of years in India after the war before being assigned to the movements plans branch of the Air Ministry — where he met his future wife who was working there as a secretary. He commanded the Hamburg and Antwerp Movements Unit in the mid-1950s and in 1956 was made senior equipment officer for the Beverly aircraft flight trials at Abingdon. He had a sequence of movements and supply jobs in this country until 1964, when he was posted to the Far East Air Force headquarters in Singapore.

It was on his return in 1968 that he was assigned to plan the introduction of computers in the RAF's supply depots. He was appointed CB on his retirement from the RAF in 1974. Shortly after he had to leave the Post Office at the age of 60, the Cadwalladers gave up their North London home for the sunshine of southern Spain. They shared their villa and grounds, overlooking the Mediterranean near Estepona, with two pet dogs and up to 30 cats — mainly adopted strays. In Spain he could indulge his passion for golf to the full, playing off a handicap of five on the famous Sotogrande course. A tall, kindly, retiring man whose other interests included cricket, sailing, choral music and Welsh male-voice choirs, Howard Cadwallader died after being struck by a car while crossing the road near his home. He is survived by his wife, Betty, whom he married in 1950. There were no children of the marriage.

LEO BUSCAGLIA

Leo Buscaglia, guru and former speech therapist, died in Nevada on June 12 aged 74. He was born in Los Angeles on March 31, 1924.



LEO BUSCAGLIA earned his sobriquet "Dr Hug" — one embrace at a time. A self-help guru and champion of the philosophy that love heals all, he never left a lecture hall without hugging every member of his audience. Armed with little more than this tactile message, Buscaglia built an empire out of easy sentiment — encompassing books, recordings, lectures both in person and on television, and a website.

Also known as "Dr Love", "the Love Merchant" and "the Hug Doctor", Buscaglia was born Felice Leonardo Buscaglia in Los Angeles into a passionate, boisterous, immigrant family. One of ten siblings, he often described his waiter father and homemaker

mother as the quintessential Italian parents. They were openly affectionate with their children, encouraged them to speak up at the dinner table, while themselves eating with abandon.

The family went back to Italy when Buscaglia was an infant but returned to Los Angeles in time for him to begin school at the age of five. He was placed in a remedial class because of his lack of English, and was later to claim that his first teacher was so caring and protective that when he was put in a standard classroom he was alienated forever from school.

Motivated by his belief that education could be stimulating, after service in the US Navy in the Second World War, Buscaglia gained a bachelor's degree in education and then a doctorate in language and speech pathology.

He worked as a speech therapist in California's state school system from 1960 to

1965, only to leave to pursue his other passion, the study of religion. He travelled widely in Asia to examine the differences between his own Christian faith and Zen Buddhism and Hinduism, publishing his findings in 1974 in *The Way of the Bull*. This book reinforced the message of his bestseller *Love (1972)*, adding that whether an individual followed Muhammad, Jesus or Buddha, the key imperative was to love one's neighbour.

In 1974 Buscaglia also returned to the University of Southern California to teach education. The suicide of one of his students devastated him, and motivated him to teach a course entitled "Love 101". Six hundred students attended the first lecture, prompting him to launch his career as a motivational writer and speaker. Buscaglia admitted that his message was not new, but his charismatic personality sold it in a way that appealed to the disco generation of the 1970s.

Buscaglia left the university in 1984 to lecture (he once took payment from a thousand fans in home-made bread) and to write full-time. His later titles included *Loving Each Other* and *Leo Buscaglia's Love Cookbook*. Since he never married, his message about the sanctity of the family was sometimes criticised as hollow. He responded that he embraced the wider family of man with the all love a father would lavish on his children. He is survived by a sister.

PERSONAL COLUMN

SERVICES: PLUMP PARTNERS, WANTED, TICKETS FOR SALE, PREMIER EVENTS, OFFICIAL WIMBLEDON DEBENTURES, TICKETS & PACKAGES CENTRE, 1 COURT ON ALL DAYS.

TICKETS FOR SALE: BRITISH GRAND PRIX, CHESTER IN LONDON, DARRA YEMMIE, WIMBLEDON, WIMBLEDON DEBENTURES, WIMBLEDON DEBENTURES, WIMBLEDON DEBENTURES.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL: CANCUN, PORTUGAL & Co. Limited, UK HOLIDAYS: KENSINGTON, FLATSHARE: LANSINGTON, FLATMATES, PELJAN, PELJAN, PELJAN, PELJAN.

RENTALS: CRICKET, COURT & SOCIAL, COURT & SOCIAL, COURT & SOCIAL, COURT & SOCIAL.

Established music education charity, The RAF Rises to the Challenge, BANQUET TO DR W.G. GRACE ON THIS DAY June 25, 1895.

BANQUET TO DR W.G. GRACE ON THIS DAY June 25, 1895. The Duke of Beaufort presided over this gathering of 400. Grace's hundredth birthday had been scored against Somerset on May 17 of that year. "English Sport" and said that in the chair they had his Grace, K.G. and on his right was "Our Grace, W.G." (Loud laughter and cheers). He might also be described as K.C.B., King of the Cricket Bat, or G.C.B., Gloucestershire County Boss (Loud laughter and cheers). They must not forget his elder brother, E.M. Grace; if they inverted his initials, they had G.E.M., another gem in the crown of English sport. (Cheers). Young W.G. had in a recent match done what few of them could do — beat his own father.

NEWS

Electricity bill cuts 'on the way'

Lower electricity bills will be promised by Margaret Beckett today as she announces the Government's long-awaited rescue proposals for the coal industry.

The President of the Board of Trade will outline plans for a wholesale reform of the electricity 'pool' through which power suppliers and producers in effect determine prices.

Satellites may win Test match coverage

After more than 50 years the BBC stands to lose its right to exclusive coverage of domestic cricket Test matches. Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sports Secretary, will tell the House of Commons today that he has decided to take Test cricket off the list of sports events protected for terrestrial television.

Neo-Nazi arms find

German police launched dawn raids on known neo-Nazi sympathisers and seized hand grenades, landmines and automatic weapons shortly before politicians promised a crackdown on links between neo-Nazis and soccer hooliganism.

University fear

Leading independent schools fear university standards could fall if the squeeze on budgets, part of a relentless expansion of higher education, continues.

No euro change

Tony Blair made clear that he would not shift from his European single currency policy, despite a Sun editorial condemning Labour's stance.

Downing Street dither

Downing Street's eleventh-hour agonising over policy proposals has become a hallmark of the Blair Government, say exasperated senior officials.

Doctors accused

Family doctors who strike off patients without saying why are criticised by the Health Service Ombudsman, who last year was asked to investigate a record 2,600 complaints.

Secret reburial

Crowds at Melrose Abbey for the reburial of Robert the Bruce's embalmed heart discovered the ceremony had taken place in secret two days earlier.

Ulster election

Northern Ireland today elects its first government since London suspended Stormont in 1972, introducing direct rule.

Kosovo countdown

Nato planners have been given a week to agree options for intervention in Kosovo, which could involve threats of airstrikes and the deployment of more than 20,000 troops.

Tiananmen 'problem'

As President Clinton visits China, a former Communist leader has reportedly called the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre "one of the biggest human rights problems this century".

Blair attacked

Nigeria's pro-democracy leaders condemned as premature Tony Blair's decision to end the country's diplomatic isolation by sending a Foreign Office minister to meet the new military leader.

Calvi exhumation

The body of Roberto Calvi, found hanging in London 1982, will be exhumed to determine whether "God's Banker" was murdered or committed suicide.

Wodehouse sale

Unpublished letters, written from a Berlin hotel by a war-weary P.G. Wodehouse, will be sold at a New York auction.

BBC joins the World Cup losers

Embarrassed BBC executives have called in police to investigate the theft of a £1,250 World Cup replica used in television coverage of the competition - despite having extra security to guard it. The cup, made of glass-fibre covered in gold leaf, had been rented from a prop-hire company for computer-generated graphics and logos.



Visitors yesterday outside Kensington Palace, where it is planned to site a £10 million, 16-acre "modern-classical" garden with a playground in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales. About 100 bouquets a week are left at the gates of her former home.

Summary of news items across various sections: BUSINESS, SPORT, ARTS, FEATURES, and COLUMNS.



TOMORROW IN THE TIMES MEDIA The press, the pound, the Prime Minister ... and the European question EDUCATION An examiner asks: Are exams a complete waste of time?

TRAVEL Best buys: A week self-catering in Tenerife for less than £200: champagne and strawberries with a Goldenrail offer. THE PAPER Bill Clinton should forget having the United States play the sulter and let his Chinese hosts do the wooing on this trip.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,827

Crossword puzzle grid with numbered squares for clues. The grid is partially filled with black squares.

- Crossword clues: 1 An invalid with a true disorder? Possibly (14). 9 Invariably be careless? It doesn't matter (5,4). 10 Call six spades, getting it (5). 11 Turn second hands (5). 12 My butter I spread - that's elementary (9). 13 Whole triangle is distorted (8). 15 Absorbed in choc-ice, romantic writer (6). 17 Speak incoherently of rock down under (6). 19 Gets the help that's otherwise denied (8).

Word search puzzle titled 'MARTIAL LAW FUSE' containing various words related to the theme.

- Crossword clues: 23 Pipe up, as knight's taken back by queen (5). 24 Defence opens as lawyer is brought in (5). 25 Insubstantial and eccentric directors (9). 26 Letters expressing agreement (14). 1 Cosmetic treatment for the invisible man? (9,5). 2 Young runner out of form (7). 3 Sent over, say (5). 4 Upset many an agricultural worker (8). 5 Discarding of clothing in fresh air, so to speak (6). 6 Concerning interpretation of a property right (9). 7 Sign a university has a piquant quality (7). 8 American city takes game as a battle (8,6). 14 Soldier rereading orders (9). 16 Bounder in court? Sort of (8). 18 Child in little fawn number (7). 20 Sailors and soldiers join in refrain (7). 21 Lively action is acceptable in the prevailing conditions (6). 23 Artist called fanatical (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 56

WEATHER section containing latest local and national weather conditions, forecasts for the UK, and world city weather.

FORECAST section with detailed weather predictions for various regions like London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

AROUND BRITAIN section listing weather forecasts for numerous towns and cities across the British Isles.

HOURS OF DARKNESS section showing sunrise and sunset times for various locations.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING section with information about recycling initiatives for newspapers.

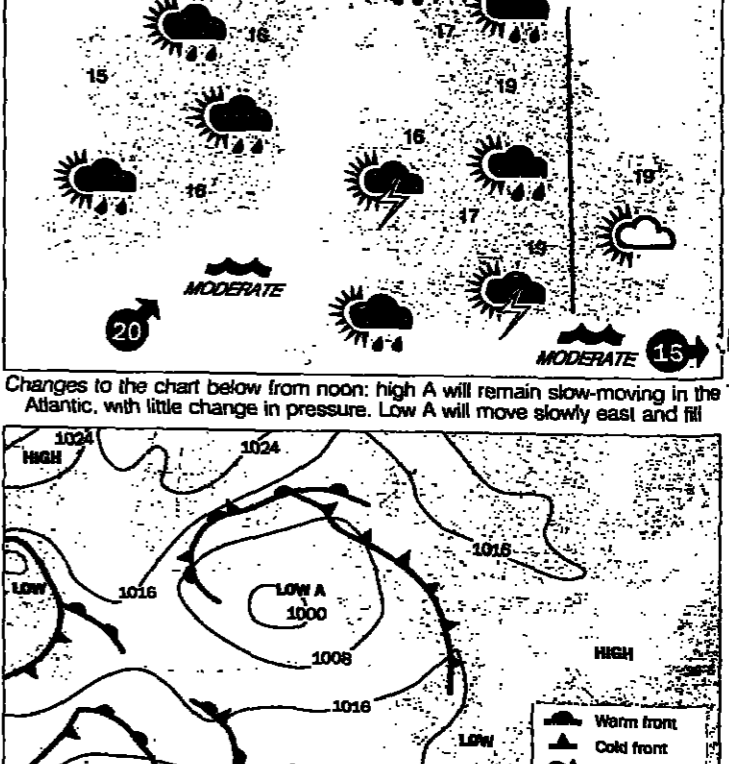
ABROAD section containing a table with weather forecasts for various international locations.

Advertisement for Swissair, highlighting the reasons for flying there via Swissair, such as late starters and a refreshing airline.

Travel advertisement for American Express offering annual travel insurance for £49.95, with a 24-hour helpline and various services.

NOON TODAY section showing a weather map for the current day with temperature indicators.

Changes to the chart below from noon: high A will remain slow-moving in the Atlantic, with little change in pressure.



HIGHEST & LOWEST section containing a table of high and low temperatures for various locations.

TODAY section containing a table of high and low temperatures for various locations.

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Greatford, Kent, 25C (77F); lowest day max: Fair Isle, Shetland, 12C (54F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway, 1.4cm; Highest sunshine: Clacton, Essex, 12.9h.

Vertical advertisement on the right margin for 'INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY' and 'BP ma \$100m after a court c'.

# THE TIMES



INSIDE SECTION  
**2**  
TODAY



**BUSINESS**  
New strategy from Warren Buffett has the market guessing  
**PAGE 33**



**ARTS**  
British Museum's Elgin Marbles go high-tech  
**PAGES 38-41**



**SPORT**  
England look to Adams to present case for defence  
**PAGES 46-56**

**TELEVISION AND RADIO**  
**PAGES 54, 55**

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

THURSDAY JUNE 25 1998

## TCI connection hinders British group's search for American partner

# AT&T's \$48bn deal cuts off BT



Malone: to run subsidiary

AT&T, the biggest US phone company, yesterday agreed to pay \$48 billion (£29 billion) for TCI, the country's second-biggest cable television operator, in a move that threatens to undermine BT's efforts to find an American partner.

Wall Street hailed the TCI takeover as a brilliant strategic move by Michael Armstrong, the new AT&T chief executive, who said: "Today we're beginning to answer a big part of the question about how we will provide local services to US consumers."

AT&T will have local access to 13 million customers. They will form the backbone of a plan to wire up homes with broadband cables that can carry everything from conventional phone conversations to video-on-demand and Internet traffic. The necessary upgrading of TCI's systems will cost \$2 billion.

Liberty Media Group, TCI's programming arm, and TCI Ventures, the investment arm, will be merged and operated independently by John Malone, the TCI chief executive.

This will be a rough road. AT&T has repeatedly clashed with regulators in the past. Its local phone monopoly was broken up in 1984 and last year it was forced to abandon merger talks with SBC.



Armstrong: brilliant move

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

## BP may face \$100m bill after appeal court defeat

By ADAM JONES

BP, the oil company, yesterday lost its appeal against a High Court ruling that it illegally used an invention patented by Hoechst, the German chemicals group, clearing the way for a multi-million pound damages award in September.

Richard Price, the lead partner at Hoechst's London lawyers, Taylor Joynson Garrett, said yesterday that \$100 million "is the starting point of our calculations."



Asprey will be combined with Garrard and the duo will trade under one name from a New Bond Street site being refurbished at a cost of £10 million

## Royal jewellers brought together

By JASON NISSÉ

PRINCE Jefri Bolkiah, the younger brother of the Sultan of Brunei, yesterday moved to stem the financial problems of Asprey, the royal jewellers, by merging it with its sister company, Garrard, and selling all the group's other businesses.

Garrard, the Queen's jewellers, will be combined with Asprey and the duo will trade under one name from the New Bond Street site occupied by Asprey.

## Windows 98 gets midnight welcome

By CHRIS AVRES

MICROSOFT, the US software firm whose Windows 95 operating system has a 90 per cent share of the world market, launched its controversial successor, Windows 98, at midnight last night.

## GUS suffers as Burberrys slips

By ROBERT COLE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

OWNERSHIP of Burberrys, the clothing brand, and the crisis of confidence among Asian consumers cut a £37 million hole in the annual profits at Great Universal Stores, the home shopping company chaired by Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale.

GUS trading profits fell from £62 million to £24.9 million and meant the GUS group as a whole could only manage a tiny increase in overall profits.

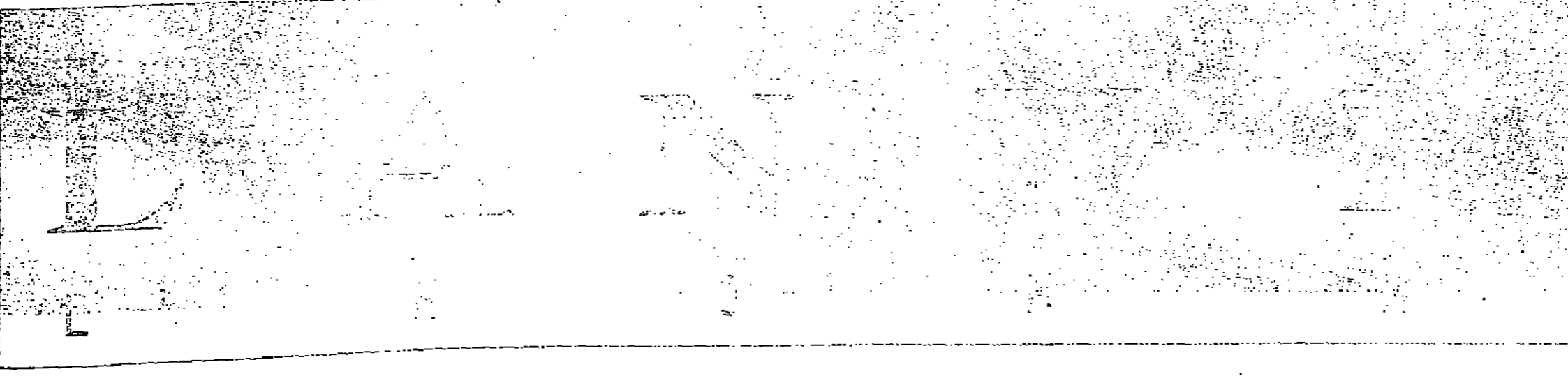
### BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES	
FTSE 100	5904.9 (+32.9)
Nikkei	12123.18 (+88.59)
Dow Jones	8623.87 (+85.41)
S&P Composite	1152.89 (+13.40)
US RATE	
Federal Funds	5 1/8% (5 1/8%)
Long Bond	106 1/2 (106 1/2)
Yield	5.87% (5.84%)
LONDON MONEY	
3-month Interbank	7 1/4% (7 1/4%)
12th long call	108.04 (108.73)
STERLING	
New York	1.6683 (1.6670)
London	1.6688 (1.6657)
DM	6.0430 (6.0385)
FF	10.0670 (10.0530)
SF	2.5126 (2.5034)
Yen	224.29 (221.55)
S Index	108.9 (108.7)
DOLLAR	
London	1.6025 (1.6020)
DM	6.0430 (6.0385)
SF	1.5980 (1.5950)
Yen	141.30 (139.22)
S Index	112.6 (112.2)
Tokyo close Yen	140.42
COMMODITIES	
Brent 15-day (Sep)	\$14.05 (\$14.40)
GOLD	
London close	\$293.85 (\$294.45)

## Software deal is big boost for Psion

By CHRIS AVRES

PSION, the palmtop computer manufacturer, saw its stock market value rise by more than 50 per cent yesterday after unveiling a partnership deal with Ericsson and Nokia, the European telecoms giants.



# GEC pays £700m for Siemens stake in joint venture

By ADAM JONES

GEC is paying £700 million for Siemens's 40 per cent stake in their GPT joint venture, which makes fibre-optic cable networks and payphones.

Yesterday's announcement ends years of uncertainty about the future of GPT, formed in 1989. At one stage, Siemens had been expected to buy all or some of GEC's stake.

GEC is paying £610 million in cash, making up the balance with its stake in Siemens GEC Communication Systems, another joint venture whose products include switching systems, voicemail and call-centre equipment. The company owns just under half of this business.

GPT, which has 10,000 employees, mainly in the UK, made a pre-tax profit of £172 million in the year to the end of March 1997, on sales of £1.17 billion. Net assets at the end of this period were £246 million. The deal should be completed by July 31.

Michael Blogg, an analyst with Charterhouse Tilney, said the deal is good value for GEC, especially since it has a new long-term co-operation agreement with Siemens to develop technology.

The deal follows a burst of activity from Lord Simpson of Dunkeld, GEC's managing director. Earlier this week, GEC floated part of its stake in Alstom, the power equipment and transport group.

The company recently bought Tracor, a US defence electronics group, for about £800 million and is poised to finalise the details of an electronics joint venture with Alenia of Italy.

GEC will merge GPT with the telecommunications arm of its Marconi subsidiary to form Marconi Communications.

A GEC spokesman said the joint venture structure had impeded GPT, slowing the introduction of new products: "The sales growth at GPT hasn't been satisfac-

tory. Part of the reason for this is the lengthy process of getting a new product approved."

He added that it will now be easier to share information and technology from the GEC Marconi defence operation with the GPT businesses.

GEC will consider strategic alliances with other telecommunications groups. The GEC spokesman said that the strength of sterling made its successful offer particularly attractive to Siemens.

The German group is forming two new companies, Siemens Telecom Networks and Siemens Newbridge Networks, that will compete directly against GPT in the UK telecoms infrastructure market.

Siemens GEC Communications made pre-tax profits of about £5 million in the year to March 31, 1997, valuing the stake being transferred from GEC to Siemens at about 18 times profits.

Tempus, page 32



The GPT buyout is the latest move in a flurry of activity by Lord Simpson at GEC

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## US manufacturers hit by Asian crisis

NEW orders for US manufactured goods dropped sharply across the board in May, fresh evidence that faltering exports to Asia were taking a toll on American industry. Total orders fell 2.6 per cent to a seasonally adjusted \$184.3 billion, much steeper than the 0.7 per cent fall forecast by Wall Street. They had risen 1.6 per cent in April.

Shipments of finished products declined for a second straight month and order backlogs were down, partly because of less demand for new commercial aircraft. One analyst said: "This is a case of Asia comes home to American manufacturing." What's most impressive is the plethora of minus signs across the board, very few positive spots. "Every major category of durable goods, defined as products intended to last three years or more, showed order declines. It was the first time that overall durables orders had fallen since February, when they dipped 0.9 per cent, and it was the biggest monthly fall since a 5.3 per cent drop last December.

## Domino advances

DOMINO PRINTING, the electronic equipment group, raised pre-tax profits by 2 per cent to £4.2 million in the half year to the end of April on sales up 5 per cent to £57.9 million. Earnings rose 8 per cent to 10.8p and the interim dividend rises 14 per cent to 5.0p. The shares fell 2p to 42.5p. Peter Byrom, chairman, said: "Significant product introductions and efficiency improvements in 1998 are important to our plans for growth and increased profitability."

## Slippage puzzles BGR

BGR, the AIM-listed restaurant group, fell from 267½p to 244p. It said it was unaware of any reason: both divisions were trading well and in line with market expectations. It is 88 per cent owned by its managers who believe that small deals in the market have an exaggerated effect on the price. Directors also blamed the collapse of the Pierre Victoire chain last week and the profits warning earlier this week from Regent Inns. BGR shares were floated at 160p in March.

## Warburg profits drop

PROFITS of SG Warburg, the UK merchant bank bought by Swiss Bank Corporation three years ago, fell 15 per cent last year. The company said that pre-tax profits for the year to December 31 were £87.1 million, against £102.8 million in 1996. A spokesman attributed the decline in profits to a fall-off in its custody business, which was sold on September 23, and higher tax charges. Swiss Bank Corporation is to complete its merger with UBS, its fellow Swiss bank, next Monday.

## Ritblat's £891,000

JOHN RITBLAT, chairman and managing director of British Land, picked up a total pay and share incentive package of £891,000 last year from the company. His pay rose from £447,000 to £580,000, largely due to a £100,000 bonus. He also took £241,000 of share options and nearly £70,000 from other share plans. Mr Ritblat's son, Nicholas, who is an executive director of the company, received an increased remuneration package of £312,000.

## Minimum resistance

ALMOST half of businesses would have been happy to pay a higher minimum wage than that set by the Government, according to the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants' quarterly survey. It found 48 per cent of financial directors questioned believed workers should be paid £4 an hour or higher. More than 60 per cent backed the Government's £3.60 setting. But 88 per cent said a minimum wage would make little difference to their business.

## Hardys & Hansons dips

HARDYS & HANSONS, the regional brewer and pub operator, reported a dip in half-year pre-tax profits from £4.01 million to £3.92 million after taking a £153,000 charge against last year's reorganisation. Earnings per share in the 26 weeks to April 3 rose slightly to 10.819p (10.807p). An interim dividend of 4.6p (4.2p) will be paid to ordinary shareholders, and 4.425p (4.025p) to deferred ordinary shareholders, largely members of the founding family.

## Viridian loses court battle

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A KEY regulatory appeal by Viridian, which owns Northern Ireland Electricity, was quashed yesterday throwing into doubt interpretations of Monopolies and Mergers Commission rulings.

Viridian had mounted a High Court challenge to a decision by Douglas McLeod, the Northern Ireland regulator for electricity and gas, not to implement the findings of an MMC inquiry

into a pricing dispute between his office and the company. The MMC had said that Northern Ireland Electricity should face one-off price cuts of 25 per cent last year instead of the 31 per cent demanded by the regulator. Instead of accepting the MMC's judgment, as regulators customarily do, Mr McLeod ordered a price reduction of 29 per cent.

Viridian could now go to the Court of Appeal.

Its fight against Mr McLeod's decision has been seen as a test case on the regulatory process. The judgment hinged on interpretation of the MMC's findings rather than on its authority.

At stake for Viridian is about £8 million a year. It is expected that it will decide in the next fortnight whether or not to continue its legal battle.

Viridian shares fell 25p to 564p yesterday.

## Caspian in sell-off plan

By RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

CASPIAN SECURITIES, the UK investment bank that specialises in Far Eastern emerging markets, said yesterday it is to sell off its profitable businesses and close its loss-making units.

Founded three years ago by Christopher Heath, former head of Barings Securities, Caspian has fallen victim to the economic turmoil that has swept across South-East Asia. About 350 are expected to lose

their jobs. Anthony Walton, appointed chief executive officer in March with a brief to review its global operations, said Caspian was built for market conditions that do not prevail today.

The group's high operating costs, combined with the depressed state of emerging markets, make the achievement of profitability highly unlikely in the short or medium term. Caspian said it was

talking to third parties about the sale of several business lines.

Mr Walton said: "Caspian remains strongly capitalised and it is my view... that the best use of that capital is repatriation to shareholders. Certain of Caspian's businesses have strong local franchises, but others are unlikely to succeed."

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FOURIST RATES

Bank	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.62	2.62
Austria Sch	22.12	20.46
Belgium Fr	66.12	60.18
Canada \$	2.574	2.338
Cyprus Cyp	0.822	0.851
Denmark Kr	12.02	11.13
Egypt Pound	5.99	5.28
Finland Mk	6.67	6.92
France Fr	10.54	9.76
Germany Dm	2.17	2.52
Greece Dr	332	483
Hong Kong \$	13.74	12.94
Iceland	191	111
Ireland Pt	1.25	1.18
Israel Sh	6.48	5.82
Italy Lira	9139	2996
Japan Yen	248.64	291.11
Malaysia Gd	0.987	0.928
Netherlands Gld	3.774	3.279
New Zealand \$	3.35	3.11
Norway Kr	13.24	1.93
Portugal Esc	918.98	297.85
S Africa Rd	9.72	8.77
Spain Ps	265.33	247.24
Sweden Kr	13.97	12.87
Switzerland Fr	2.88	2.45
Turkey Lira	446.80	434.82
USA \$	1.775	1.832

Rates for small denomination notes only as supplied by Barclays. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

## Credit card spending in May boosted by weather

By OUR BUSINESS STAFF

THE warm weather in May sent consumers rushing to the shops, boosting credit and debit card spending, figures showed yesterday.

Spending on cards was 19 per cent higher this year than 12 months ago, after sluggish figures in March and April. Sales were particularly strong in clothing and household goods, which usually perform best in fine weather.

The figures, compiled by the Credit Card Research Group, showed an increase of more than 20 per cent in these two

sectors. Elizabeth Phillips, director of the CCRG, said: "Although these figures are an improvement on the recent slow growth, the rate of increase is still below that of a year ago."

"As they are only one month's figures they should be interpreted cautiously. With interest rates continuing an upward trend, cyclical factors may still be expected to stunt card spending growth rates."

Recent trading statements from retailers indicate a sharp decline in consumer demand

in June, partly because of the unseasonably wet weather.

Spending on debit cards increased more quickly than on credit cards on most items, except food and drink. Analysts at the CCRG said this was because of efforts made by supermarkets to promote their own credit cards.

This research on card spending follows last week's retail sales figures that showed shops enjoyed bumper sales in May, triggering fears of inflation and further interest rate rises.

## MPs criticise sale of Belfast airport

By MARTIN BARROW

THE privatisation of Belfast International Airport, which yielded a massive profit for its new owners when it was sold on just two years later, was severely criticised by MPs yesterday.

The Commons Public Accounts Committee said it was "outraged" that the airport was bought in a management-employee buy-out, then resold for more than three times the purchase price.

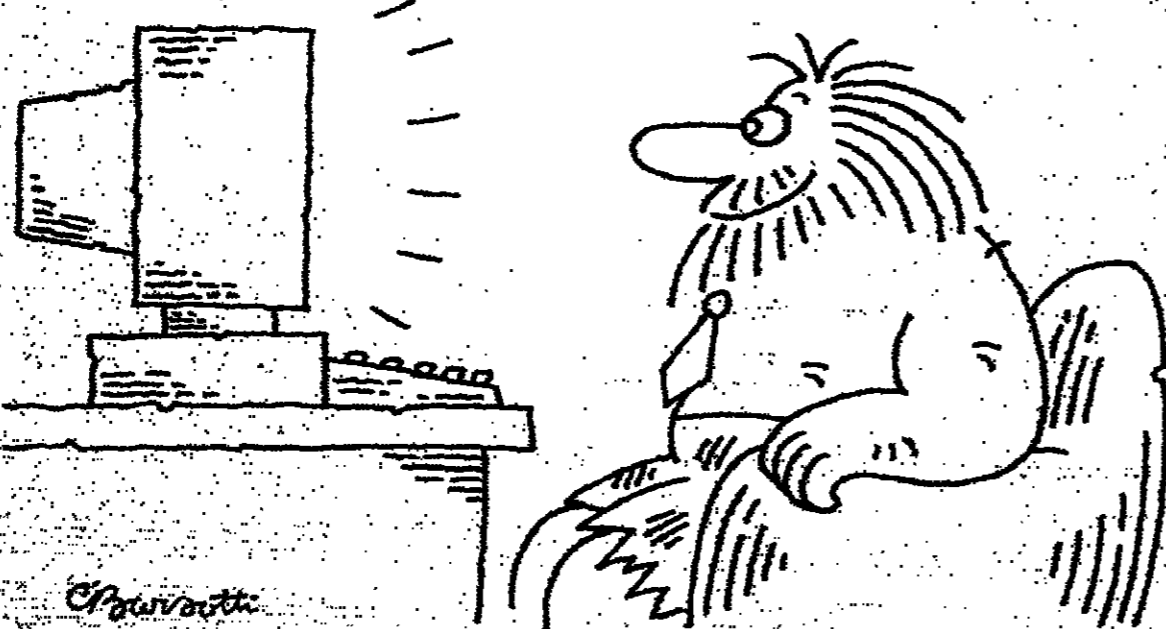
The management team bought the airport for £32.75 million in July 1994. But in July 1996 it sold it to the TBI

Group, which owns Cardiff Airport, for £107 million — a £74 million mark-up.

The three main directors involved in the buy-out each made a reported return of about £6 million on an investment of £50,000.

The Committee, in a report published yesterday, strongly criticised the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland for not including a "clawback" provision in the sale. The report said such a provision would have enabled it to recover some of the "superprofits".

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THE TIMES  
T  
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£2bn  
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ignites I  
Eidos

# Not such a catalogue of woes



## COMMENTARY by our City Editor

The famous Burberry check has bounced. While the business may be but a minor part of the Great Universal Stores now being refashioned by Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, news of its problems met with an emotional response in the City, where the Burberry macintosh is an acceptable wet weather alternative to the velvet collared overcoat.

Yet the main market for the distinctive Burberry products is Asia and the business was an inevitable victim of the financial crisis now hitting that continent. The speed and scale of the impact may be a touch surprising, with trading profits down from £62 million to less than £25 million, but it should not be allowed to overshadow the good news from the rest of the group. Lord Wolfson, so recently lauded as a business superstar when he launched his ultimately successful attack on Argos, cannot fairly be said to have lost his touch because of this disappointment.

In fact, he had already embarked on a shake-up of Burberry, entrusting the brand to the wonderfully named Rose-Marie Bravo, not an extra from *Z-Cars* but a graduate of Saks Fifth Avenue, judged by her peers to be a class act in retailing. Even she may have some difficulty finding a way to dispose of the specially scaled-down versions of Burberry made for the Asian markets, hence the £17 million stock writedown. But the macs

do not date, so when Koreans and Japanese start spending again, Ms Bravo may be able to recoup some of that cash.

But retailing was never the core of GUS. Before Lord Wolfson took over the chair two years ago, it was property and finance that made the company's profits: the fat mail order catalogues were just a way of selling credit. Now, with a couple of swift strokes by the new boss, GUS has been reshaped as a fashionable seller of finance and information. And the demand for information seems set to grow no matter how deep the recession bites. Credit checking, a speciality of Experian, becomes ever more important as personal finances hit harder times.

Experian's contribution to GUS profits is now only slightly lower than that of the home shopping division. Yet while analysts have for years been reading the last rites over this business, yesterday's figures indicated that death may have been, at least temporarily, averted. Trading profits actually rose marginally, helped by more of the catalogues that go direct to customers, bypassing the old agent system. It is now GUS that is responsible for the innovations that tumbles on to door-

mais, full of the latest "must have" products such as underground mole scarers or devices for turning unwanted catalogues into barbecue fuel.

Argos will be the high street face of these catalogues. As they watch the horrors now hitting retailers, former Argos shareholders may be grateful that the company lost its hard-fought battle for independence — and that GUS was paying in cash, not shares.

### Designer goods out of fashion

Burberry's unsold macs join a fast-accumulating litany of luxury goods that are now being sent back to the warehouse. The Asian appetite for expensive goods has turned into a case of anorexia that threatens the future of some top of the market businesses. Yesterday watchmaker Tag

Heuer admitted that it expected sales for the first half of this year to be down by as much as 10 per cent. There was an air of unconvincing optimism in the company's comment that efforts now being taken to compensate for the downturn in the Asian markets "may not be sufficient to offset a likely moderate sales decline for the year as a whole".

Swiss-based Tag Heuer went public when the world was in spendthrift mood and companies such as Gucci were enjoying the fun. Gucci shares soared from little over \$20 to \$80 a year later, as people queued for the privilege of paying sky-high prices for simple velvet shirts, so long as they came with the label that clever Tom Ford had made so covetable amongst the cognoscenti.

But the market failed at that stage to take account of just how dependent on high-spending Asians the designer labels are. Add to that economic exposure

the fact that fashion can be so cruelly fickle, and you have a case of double jeopardy.

Gucci shares acknowledged this late last year, as the Asian crisis was becoming apparent, and the shares plunged back towards \$30. Now, however, they are climbing again, fuelled by the news that Prada, another Italian fashion house, has lifted its stake in the company to 9.5 per cent. Yesterday Gucci's president, Domenico De Sole, insisted that he was not in talks with Prada. Even though Prada is currently riding high in the fashion stakes, sceptics cannot see how the family firm could mount a bid for its rival. But Wall Street does not want to listen to such dismal talk and continues to drive the stock back up to levels which seem as flimsily based as a Gucci stiletto.

The lack of extravagant Asian customers will have an impact in Britain which goes far beyond Burberrys. In London's Bond

Street and Sloane Street, property prices have soared as the designer shops have enjoyed buoyant trade, largely courtesy of foreign visitors. As this dries up, so will their ability to pay the rents. The estate agents should be getting their teeth set on edge, and the property companies that own the sites should be preparing to take a hit.

### BT home alone on prom night

In the communications company wait, AT&T is the latest one to claim its partner. The decision of the long-distance operator to bid for Telecommunications Inc. the cable television business, makes sense for both parties but leaves BT looking increasingly like the wallflower.

It might have been a figment of analysts' imagination that AT&T was planning a liaison with BT but that was the story and it now looks much less likely of realisation. The knights of BT, Sir Iain Vallance and Sir Peter Bonfield, have acknowledged that they do not wish to be left alone, having launched the potential merger with MCI last

year. They were extricated from that problem by the swashbuckling WorldCom, whose deal now seems likely to negotiate successfully the regulatory hurdles and yield BT a useful £4.3 billion bonus. But then where does BT turn for companionship?

The company has built up an extensive network of holdings in Europe, and is becoming an increasingly important contender on the international telecoms scene. But it is the United States where it needs to bolster its Concert business, originally set up with MCI.

Sir Iain steps back from his role as executive chairman at the end of next month after ten years and becomes non-executive. Sir Peter, who last year joined the ranks of executives who collect a pay package of more than £1 million, will find himself under mounting pressure to pull off the big deal.

### Curse of Sears

IT IS tempting to blame all Asprey's problems on the Far East economic crisis and the parsimony of its owner and largest customer, Prince Jefri. But if one looks more closely one can see a thread linking Asprey with the woens of Facia, Selfridges and Freemans. After all Garrard, which is being closed, and Mappin & Webb, which is among the businesses that Asprey hopes to sell, were both purchased from Sears.

## PowerGen 'on brink' of £2bn REC takeover bid

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

POWERGEN is thought to be close to announcing a £2 billion takeover of East Midlands Electricity, the regional electricity company.

The generator is expected to move shortly after today's announcement of the Government's energy review which will secure a market for coal. The review is likely to seek voluntary power station sales by the main generators which PowerGen will support in the hope of being allowed to buy a regional electricity company — a move it was banned from making under the Conservative government.

Ed Wallis, chairman of PowerGen, is believed to have approached Dominion Resources — the US owners of East Midlands with an "aggressive" bid for the business.

At £2 billion, the offer marks a substantial premium over the £1.3 billion price paid by Dominion for the company in late 1996 and it is likely that Dominion would be receptive to the move. However, the US utility is understood to be anxious to dispel belief that it is keen to bail out of the UK electricity market.

The company had not thought of selling East Midlands until the approach by Mr Wallis.

He is a long-time advocate of vertical integration — the fusion of electricity generation with regional distribution and supply. Mr Wallis believes a small number of vertically integrated power companies will do more to stimulate competition in electricity than the present arrangement of

many separate distributors and suppliers.

Although PowerGen is keen to deny a link between its hopes for vertical integration and its co-operation with the energy review, which will mean it agrees to buy a set amount of coal over five years, few in the industry believe the two issues are separate.

In the early stages of the coal crisis last year PowerGen was asked by one minister what the Government could do for the generator and if it still wanted to buy a regional electricity company. One source close to RJB Mining, the biggest coal producer, said yesterday that PowerGen was now talking about new coal contracts with a "renewed vigour" which had surprised company negotiators.

An East Midlands takeover would mark the first withdrawal from the UK by a US company after the rush of US utilities into Britain two years ago. Then they viewed UK companies as a quick route to cash in a relatively generous regulatory regime. However, the introduction of the windfall tax and the approach of domestic competition changed the mood among US utilities.

East Midlands would make a good geographical fit with PowerGen, which has a lot of generating capacity in the Midlands. Two years ago Ian Lang, the then President of the Board of Trade, blocked PowerGen from buying Midlands Electricity.

Neither PowerGen nor Dominion Resources would comment on a possible takeover.

### Azlan rises on takeover approach

SHARES in Azlan, the computer network products company under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office, jumped by 28 per cent to 72½p yesterday after it announced that it had received approaches about a takeover (Paul Durman writes).

According to one report, the favourite to buy Azlan is CHS Electronics, a Miami-based distributor. Azlan, only recently restored to profit after losing control of its accounting systems, said it was premature to say whether the approaches would lead to an offer.

At yesterday's closing price the company is worth £77 million. That is a far cry from late 1996, before the company fell into difficulties, when the shares traded at 28½p and the business was worth £304 million.

## ML swallows a £22m bitter pill

By PAUL DURMAN

ML LABORATORIES' decision to adopt a more conservative accounting policy has led to the company writing off £22 million of patent and development expenditure previously capitalised on its balance sheet.

Stuart Sims, chief executive of the drug and medical device development company, said that ML's previous treatment of R&D spending had been perfectly acceptable. However, he said: "It was not well received by the pharmaceutical analysts. It became something that was getting in the way."

ML was reporting first-half losses of £5 million. Last year's interim profit of just under £1 million came largely from milestone payments from bigger companies, such as Baxter Healthcare, that have agreed to market ML's products. Baxter has launched the Extracel dialysis solution developed by

ML in 17 countries, generating about £400,000 of royalties for ML in the first half.

ML is still struggling to recruit volunteers for a trial of its Aids treatment and is looking to South Africa for patients. The launch of its Clickhaler by Medeva, the British pharmaceutical company, has also suffered delays because of problems satisfying the UK regulators about using the inhaler with beclomethasone, an asthma drug.

ML ended March with cash of £15.4 million. Mr Sims said the milestone payments that ML expects to receive from other products in development will avoid the need for it to seek more money from shareholders. He said: "We have a dozen products that will be in the market by 2000 or 2001."

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## Malamatinas promotion ignites Diageo speculation

By DOMINIC WALSH

DIAGEO has elevated Dennis Malamatinas, head of Burger King, to the main board, reigniting speculation that he is being groomed as a potential replacement for John McGrath when he steps down as group chief executive in two years' time.

Mr Malamatinas, 42, who is credited with revitalising Burger King in its battle for supremacy with McDonald's, faces competition for the chief executive's chair from Paul Walsh, also 42, head of its Pillsbury food division and Philip Yea, the group's 43-year-old finance director. Both are already on the board.

Mr McGrath, chief executive of Grand Metropolitan before the merger with Guinness, is tipped to step up to chairman in 2000 when Tony Greener takes retirement. Sir George Bull, the current co-chairman, retires at the end of July leaving Mr Greener as sole chairman until then.

Colin Storm, who was recently appointed chief executive of Guinness brewing, was also promoted to the Diageo board yesterday but at 55 is considered too old for Mr McGrath's post. In addition, Michael Hejper announced he is to stand down as a non-executive director at the end of July.



John McGrath, who is due to stand down in two years

## Virgin label group takes £9.7m loss on the chin

By ROBERT COLE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

VICTORY CORPORATION, the AIM-listed vehicle for Virgin Vie cosmetics and Virgin Clothes, lost £9.7 million in the year to March. It said the losses were expected because of start-up costs and low sales. In the previous year sales were nil and the loss of £3.7 million was wholly derived from operating cost.

Victory, which is 52 per cent owned by Richard Branson and other Virgin associated shareholders, said it would not be in profit until 2001.

The shares came to the stock market in October 1996 at a price of 58p. Yesterday they were unmoved at 27½p.

Virgin Vie is sold in six shops and by agents. Victory said it now has 1,100 agents, and Ian Pluthero, the chairman appointed in April, said: "Virgin Vie made a solid start to trading. In particular, we are pleased with the progress of Virgin Vie Direct which is successfully fostering a potent new force of Virgin entrepreneurs."

Virgin Clothes, which will supply branded clothes to retail shops, will be launched in August with a £4 million advertising campaign.

The loss per share was 4.1p and there is no dividend.

## Eidos statement boosts price

By CHRIS AYRES

SHARES in Eidos, the computer games group famous for *Tomb Raider*, jumped 75p to 84½p yesterday after it issued a statement saying sales remained strong and that it was considering a number of possible acquisitions.

Industry sources said targets could include private companies such as Virgin Interactive, producer of *Command & Conquer*, and Microprose, publisher of *Civilization*. However, some analysts dismissed the statement as a means of spicing up the com-

pany's share price, which has suffered a steep decline from £12.62½ in May to 770p earlier this week. Its shares traded at just 447½p last year.

The company — which created the games icon Lara Croft — has been accused of being a one-hit wonder, with its *Tomb Raider* series outselling all its other titles. One analyst said yesterday: "Shares in Eidos are almost the definition of volatility."

Charles Cornwall, chief executive of Eidos, said: "The fact is that for no apparent

reason the company's share price has come down significantly in recent weeks. The market was assuming we were about to raise equity. But at the moment that remains total speculation." He added that he wanted to reassure the market that the company was performing well.

Mr Cornwall would not comment on which companies Eidos was considering buying. "Like every other large player, we are aware of all other companies that may be up for sale," he said. "It is a

very incestuous industry with a lot of people chatting to each other all the time."

He added that the company's *World League Soccer* game for PlayStation had performed well, as had *Command & Conquer: Behind Enemy Lines*. Eidos has also released *Dominion Storm* in the US, and will release *Final Fantasy VII* over the next few days.

Last year, Eidos turned losses of £6.8 million into pre-tax profits of £16.5 million, while sales rose from £75.5 million to £137.2 million.

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### Oil price rises as Opec plans output cut

By GEORGE SIVELL

OIL prices rose yesterday after signs from Vienna that members of the Opec oil production cartel would agree to further cuts in output. Industry sources expected the 11 Opec ministers attending the meeting to agree to cuts of 1.38 million barrels a day.

The cut was apparently agreed in two hours of informal talks yesterday morning ahead of a formal meeting that was scheduled for yesterday afternoon but which may be delayed until today.

North Sea Brent oil rose 14 cents to \$14.06 a barrel although some ministers said it would take a cut in world oil production of two million barrels a day to end the present slump in oil prices.

Three months ago Opec members agreed to withdraw 1.245 million barrels a day but world oil prices have remained weak. Last year oil averaged \$19 a barrel but began falling in November when Opec raised output as Asian demand began to fade.

The United Nations voted last week to approve \$300 million (£180 million) in equipment to upgrade Iraq's dilapidated oil industry. This will eventually lead to higher oil exports but the supplies are not expected to reach Baghdad for several months.

## Court of Appeal judges condemn Government's failure on fraud

By A CORRESPONDENT

THE Government's failure to bring into force new laws that were passed by Parliament five years ago to combat international fraud was condemned by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Three appeal judges, still bound by outdated and defective legal provisions relating to offences that straddle international boundaries, had been forced to quash convictions on three of the 11 fraud charges that were proved against John Manning, the marine insurance agent.

Manning's conduct had been "plainly dishonest", said Lord Justice Buxton, and it was "deplorable" that the court was left with no choice but to quash the convictions.

Failure to implement Part 1 of the 1993 Criminal Justice Act, which was designed to cure the problem, "seriously undermines the role that the courts of England and Wales should be playing in the battle against international fraud", said the judge, sitting with Mr Justice Wright and Mr Justice David Steel. "It causes a quite unjustifiable expenditure of public

funds in litigation, as the present case amply demonstrates."

The court hoped that the "most unhappy outcome of this case may finally demonstrate that Part 1 of the Act should now be brought into operation without further delay."

Manning, who ran Scott Lee Insurance and Financial Consultants from his home in Saffron Walden, Essex, is serving 30 months in jail for false accounting, forgery and dishonestly procuring the execution of cheques.

The ruling, allowing his appeal on just three of the charges, does not affect his total sentence, which was upheld by the judges.

Manning was accused of obtaining insurance premiums from ship-owning clients and then either placing no cover at all, or covering for a lesser risk than instructed, or placing cover with unacceptable insurers.

The charges on which he was cleared yesterday involved the procuring of cheques that were made out to him and signed by a client in Athens.

Lord Justice Buxton said the

procurement, although it began in this country in connection with a dishonest scheme conducted in this country, was not actually completed until the client signed in Athens.

As the law stood, the English courts "very regrettably" had no jurisdiction to try anyone on such charges. This unavoidable conclusion did not accord with "justice, common sense or the interests of the prosecution of international fraud".

Parliament, in passing Part 1 of the 1993 Act, had sought to introduce "a rational and comprehensive scheme that would give the courts of England and Wales jurisdiction over cases of international fraud that had a connection with this country but which were not necessarily completed here", according to the judge.

The failure to implement Part 1 was surprising in view of the fact that almost identical provisions relating to international computer fraud, under the 1990 Computer Misuse Act, had been in operation since that statute was passed "as far as we know, without any adverse consequences".



John King, left, and Geoffrey Elliot of Galen Holdings, saw group sales rise 24 per cent

### Operating profit up at Galen Holdings

By PAUL DURMAN

GALEN HOLDINGS, the Northern Ireland pharmaceutical company that announced plans for a £1.5 billion merger on Tuesday, demonstrated its rapid growth yesterday with interim results that showed a 31 per cent improvement in operating profits.

John King, chief executive, would not be drawn on the implications of the proposed deal with Ferring Pharmaceuticals, a much larger family-owned European group. Most of Galen's sales are in the UK and Ireland and one immediate benefit of the merger would be international distribution for its painkillers, laxatives and antibiotics.

Galen's first-half operating profits rose from £5.4 million to £7.1 million. Group sales rose 24 per cent to £24.1 million. Pre-tax profits rose from £6.2 million to £7.9 million; stripping out a £750,000 one-off gain in the earlier period, this is a 39 per cent improvement.

The pharmaceutical services division, based around Clinical Trials Services that makes drug kits for clinical trials, produced the fastest growth, increasing sales by 58 per cent to £7.6 million.

Sales in the larger — but lower-margin — pharmaceutical products arm increased by 12 per cent to £16.5 million.

The interim dividend is 0.44p a share, a 20 per cent increase.

## VTech makes light of Asian financial crisis

By MARTIN BARROW

VTECH HOLDINGS, the London-listed computer and telecoms company based in Hong Kong, yesterday sought to dispel fears about the impact of the Asian financial crisis on its businesses.

The company, whose shares have come under pressure in recent weeks, said it had so far suffered no real negative effect. Allan Wong, chairman, said its leading markets were in Europe and most revenues were in US dollars and European currencies. The depreciation of some Asian currencies had worked in VTech's favour, stabilising or reducing

sourcing prices for some components.

The shares rose 16½p to 194p yesterday, against a 12-month high of 207½p. VTech was reporting a rise in pre-tax profits to US\$80 million (£47.9 million) from \$50.6 million for the year to March 31. Profits from continuing operations rose to \$86.5 million on sales of \$326.8 million from \$67.9 million and \$385.2 million respectively.

During the year the company sold its personal computer business, resulting in a loss of \$6.6 million. The net exceptional charge was \$7.5 million,

against a charge of \$13.8 million in the previous year.

Mr Wong said sales of electronic learning products rose 11.2 per cent to \$391.1 million. The American market remained stable but sales in Europe advanced 20 per cent. The company is targeting the pre-school market and is expanding in Latin America with a Spanish-language product line and in Japan.

Earnings rose to 32.6 cents a share, fully diluted, from 21.3 cents. There is a final dividend of 10 cents a share, lifting the total payout to 14 cents from 8 cents.

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### Lambert increases mis-selling cover

By MARIANNE CURPHEY, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

THE increased scope of the pensions mis-selling review has forced Lambert Fenchurch, the insurance broker, to set aside a £24 million provision to cover costs.

The broker, formed from the merger of Lowndes Lambert and Fenchurch, had previously set aside just £75,000. It has increased its provision following the decision by the Financial Services Authority, the City regulator, to widen the scope of the review to include younger people who may have been mis-sold a personal pension in the 1980s.

Lambert Fenchurch also made a £2.6 million provision in order to achieve further merger cost savings and cut its dividend. And yesterday, David Margrett, chief execu-

tive, said the group, which had made £5 million worth of cost savings, was interested in making acquisitions in the broking sector. The shares fell 10p to 104p yesterday.

Pre-tax profit before exceptional items rose to £19.7 million from £14.6 million. The exceptional items — the cost of the pensions review and the merger costs — totalled £5 million and reduced profits to £14.7 million.

William Wilks, finance director, said the dividend had been cut from 5.5p per share last year to 2.75p this year in order "to reinvest in the business and take advantage of the opportunities in the months ahead". The group said a 50 per cent reduction in the next interim dividend was likely.

### East Surrey protests on price cuts

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

EAST SURREY, the water company, yesterday joined protests against the regulator's planned price reductions, claiming that customers wanted money spent on water quality and resources rather than cutting bills.

The company will next year reduce its prices by an extra 5 per cent as promised when it took over Sutton District Water two years ago.

East Surrey's pre-tax profits for the year to March 31 increased 29 per cent to £23.8 million, boosted by property sales. Earnings per share without exceptional items rose from 24.6p to 27.4p. The dividend rose from 10.8p to 12p with the final payment of 8p due on August 7.

## Autonomy offering aims to raise \$50m

By MATTHEW BARBOUR

AUTONOMY Corporation, the software group based in Cambridge, is seeking to raise about \$50 million (£30 million) through a public offering of its shares on Easdaq.

The company, which also has bases in San Francisco and New York, expects to have a market capitalisation of about \$160 million after the placing.

Michael Lynch, the chief executive, said the company had chosen to launch the placing on the European rather than the US market because of its sales profile and its prominence in a high-tech market.

"We chose Easdaq because almost 80 per cent of our sales are in Europe — it's a pan-European market for a pan-European company," he said. "Easdaq is a more sophis-



Lynch: focused on Europe

ed market and that is exactly where we want to be."

He added that a dual listing on Nasdaq was possible because of the compatibility of the two exchanges, but said that at the moment Autonomy was focused on its European operations.

He said: "Easdaq is following Nasdaq, its sister exchange, by developing a profile of technology and biotech companies."

Mr Lynch added that he felt confident that although the London markets still had some way to go before they caught-up with their American counterparts, progress was being made.

Last month Misys became the first IT specialist to join the FTSE 100 after starring on Easdaq.

The group said it would use the money raised to buy the intellectual property rights to its Dynamic Reasoning Engine (DRE) technology and initiate a significant marketing campaign in the US and the Pacific Rim.

DRE is a search engine which can extract concepts rather than just keyword and index searches.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust prices, organized by fund name, share price, and other financial metrics. Includes sub-sections for various fund categories like Equity, Bond, and Money Market.

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Equities stage late rally

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FILM  
Jennifer Aniston in love  
Facing page

# THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE  
A starring role for Zoe Wanamaker  
PAGE 40



## A high-tech game of Greek marbles

**GALLERIES:** Isabel Carlisle reports on how the British Museum is using the latest computer technology to explore the mysteries of the Elgin Marbles

With serendipitous timing, the British Museum tomorrow opens two new galleries to display its Parthenon sculptures (the Elgin Marbles) while the debate over their unauthorised "cleaning" by Lord Duveen in the 1930s rumbles on. Within the moral and political complexity of the arguments over the museum's retention of the sculptures, the museum authorities have always pointed to their high standards of presentation and interpretation for the general public. The new Parthenon galleries are set to bolster that claim, just as George Papandreu, Greece's Deputy Foreign Minister, launches a new campaign for the return of the Elgin Marbles to Athens.

The video shows the frieze as it would have looked in antiquity, painted and high up inside the Parthenon, while further down the galleries the north-west corner of the Parthenon has been reconstructed in real rather than virtual space from an original marble capital and drum. A crown block that sat on top of the frieze and supported the roof beams still has traces of paint from antiquity.

The new galleries (the only ones in the museum to have either audio guides or a video display) additionally form part of a groundbreaking project to allow blind and partially sighted visitors a better understanding of the Parthenon. New casts of panels from the West frieze, made of a composite stone called Jesmonite, have been struck from moulds made by Elgin in 1802. Set low on the walls at wheelchair level so that they can be explored by touch by the disabled as well as the able-bodied, they are explained by an audio-guide and tactile labels.

This "Tiresias Project", named after the blind seer of Ancient Thebes who had the gift of second sight, has been masterminded by Ian Jenkins, senior curator in the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum, and an expert on the Parthenon sculptures.

"The primary problem with the Parthenon sculptures," says Jenkins, "is that they are revered rather than understood. The British Museum has striven to explain them to visitors for 200 years and now we are using contemporary technology."

The Tiresias Project extends the audience for the sculptures to the unsighted, as well as explaining



Virtually godlike: Dionysus revolves in front of the Parthenon pediment courtesy of a computer-generated graphic in the British Museum's new Greek gallery

them in a new way to the sighted. By being in the vanguard of research we seek to communicate our regard for the sculptures to an international audience."

on the Parthenon frieze is being launched, which has led to new discoveries about how the frieze was originally conceived by Phidias. The book, called *Second Sight of the Parthenon Frieze*, is the first

combining photographs with drawings, raised graphics and Braille to be printed anywhere. The concept was developed in collaboration with the Royal National Institute for the Blind and the

technology developed in Turin by the publisher Silvio Zamorani. Raised drawings of the overlapping ranks of figures in the procession are supplemented with a bird's-eye view, so that the cavalcades are

seen (and felt) in plan as well as elevation. "This meant that, for the first time, we were attempting to recreate the very blueprint that Phidias put into the hand of the master mason," says Jenkins.

**POP:** A former Stone Rose warms up; Beastie Boys return; Shania shines

### Emperor's new clothes

It is often said, with ample justification, that there would be no Liam Gallagher or Richard Ashcroft without Ian Brown. Both Oasis and The Verve were heavily influenced by the Stone Roses, especially Brown's pugilistic stage persona and blunt Northern charisma. But almost a decade has passed since the Roses ruled British rock, and the emperor's new clothes are proving much less dazzling than his old ones.

Even in the Tivoli, a cramped provincial ballroom, Brown's legendary arrogance was on full beam. He remains an iconic and much-loved figure, especially in his native North West. But no amount of messianic haughtiness or popular goodwill could entirely paper over the gaping cracks

**Ian Brown**  
Buckley, Wales

in his current live set. At times, notably during his debut solo single *Star*, the singer's notoriously unpredictable voice sounded as jarringly flat as it did during the farcical Stone Roses finale at Reading two years ago.

### Point proved, Shania

A show business myth has been exploded and the pieces scattered over North America in recent weeks, as Shania Twain undertakes her first concert tour. Now the bestselling female artist in country music history, the Canadian singer had incurred scepticism by declining to mount a large-scale live show until now. But all doubts were dismissed in California on Sunday in a spectacular and energetic entertainment.

**Shania Twain**  
Anaheim, California

Everything about this imaginative concert in front of 20,000 fans in Anaheim's Arrowhead Pond ice hockey arena was larger than life, endorsing her decision to take her time and do it right.

The irony of those doubts is that Twain is a veteran of live work from the age of eight, long before her number came up, and it showed in her icy confidence in front of an extraordinarily mixed audience. They were all here, from the cowboys, via the Calvin Klein set, mothers and tots and drooling males to navel-baring teenage wannabes.

Twain had clearly taken a long, punter's-eye look at the modern arena pop show and injected it with some inventive ideas. Not for her the endless costume changes of a Mariah or Janet fashion parade; here the energies were directed into such devices as individual "travellers" for the band and herself during *If It Don't Take Two*; stoking team spirit by shining a huge spotlight around the room before *Any Man of Mine*; and encouraging two teenagers onto the stage despite the best efforts of security staff.

Twain carried it all off with good-humoured spontaneity. And to close, nothing less than being shot from a drum and paraded through the crowd Cleopatra-style.

**STEPHEN DALTON**

**LISA VERRICO**

### The boys are back in town

The hottest tickets in town this week were without doubt for the Beastie Boys' first UK concert in almost three years. Indeed, by the time the New York-bred band took to the stage at 10pm on Tuesday for the first of two consecutive nights at Brixton Academy, the heat had already claimed casualties.

Accompanied by a six-piece band, he played improvised versions of both new and old material. The Beastie Boys' arrival on stage was equally impressive. While Mixmaster Mike, installed in a big black DJ booth centre-stage, scratched the same break over and over,

**Beastie Boys**  
Brixton Academy

band members Adam Horovitz and Adam Yauch sprang into sight sporting bright orange boiler suits, as worn in the video for new single *Intergalactic*. Bouncing two steps behind was lead vocalist Mike Diamond, whose outfit was white and included a cape. After some shambolic kung-fu moves, the rapping trio launched into *Sure Shot*, a former single from 1995's multimillion-selling *Ill Communication*. They proceeded to play large chunks of back catalogue, as well as tracks

from their forthcoming fifth album, *Hello Nasty*. Like the band's sound, which switched incessantly between rock, rap, funk, hip hop and electro, its line-up was constantly in flux. Money Mark contributed occasionally, while both a double bass and a bongo player put in an appearance. Horovitz sometimes added guitar, Yauch played a bit of bass and, during a 15-minute, Latin-flavoured interlude, Mike Diamond just vanished.

**PAUL SEXTON**

WOODY HARRELSON      ELISABETH SHUE      GINA GERSHON

IN A TOWN THIS BAD  
IT'S NO USE BEING GOOD.

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NEW MOVIES: Jennifer Aniston will win the audience's hearts in Nicholas Hytner's risk-free romantic comedy, says Geoff Brown

# Safety first for a Friend in need

When two characters tell the heroine that her nose looks like a tulip, you know you are watching a film desperate for the actress to win our hearts. She is Jennifer Aniston, popular from the television series *Friends*. In her first movie vehicle, *Picture Perfect*, she won only apathy, helped by a bad director and a banal script about an advertising executive in need of a fiancé. Her second bid for Hollywood stardom is *The Object of My Affection*, based on Stephen McCauley's novel, another romantic comedy that unfolds in a New York City dominated by people with money, jobs, and dazzling skyline views. This time Aniston's director is far from bad, though he could be called inappropriate: is this the fare you expect from Nicholas Hytner, the British stage wizard who made his film debut with *The Madness of King George*?

Not that this piece of confectionery, written by playwright Wendy Wasserstein, slavishly follows the ancient recipe. Boyfriends and babies take centre stage; but one of the boyfriends, a first-grade teacher called George, is gay. When his partner ends their relationship, George (Paul Rudd) finds shelter with a social worker, Nina (Aniston). They become fast friends. She falls in love, and wants him to help raise the child she is carrying, in preference to her boyfriend Vince, whose appeal is limited. For a while paradise reigns; then George falls for another man, and people get hurt.

But only briefly. In this kind of *soufflé*, tender feelings never last longer than five seconds; stretched beyond that, they would bump into wisecracks, some theatrical contrivance, or an elegantly turned phrase from Nigel Hawthorne, cast as a viper-tongued theatre critic, and the present partner of George's new flame "Paul and I" he burbles, "are currently meaning through some of the better South Australian Char-donnays." It is understandable: wine talk is safer than gay sex, which the film, for all its liberal attitudes, positively shrinks from uncracking.

Indeed, the film's support for parenting and family togetherness grows to such a pitch that toes may curl. Still, Hawthorne is a joy; Aniston and Rudd are never less than pleasant; Alan Alda and Allison Janney are funny as the ultimate chic Manhattanites; and Hytner suavely disguises most of the cracks as Wasserstein's script moves through its patterned paces towards the inevitable, impossible, happy ending.

New York assumes a different complexion in *Mimic*, one of those horror films where the rain never stops, people spend a lot of time screaming "Oh, my God!", and man-eating super-insects infest the city's subway system. At first glance it may be surprising to see Mira Sorvino in such a place (she plays a brilliant scientist who inadvertently spawned the mutant beasts). But this is what happens when you win an Oscar for *Mighty Aphrodite* and become a horrible word - bankable. The direc-

**The Object of My Affection**  
Odeon West End, 15, 111 mins  
Fair romantic comedy, with Jennifer Aniston

**Mimic**  
Warner West End, 15, 102 mins  
Mutant insects attack New York. So what else is new?

**Ponette**  
Curzon Mayfair, PG, 93 mins  
Extraordinary journey into a child's mind

**Journey to the Beginning of the World**  
Renoir, U, 93 mins  
Mastroianni's moving last performance

**Girls' Night**  
Warner West End, 15, 93 mins  
Bingo, Las Vegas and death

**Palmetto**  
Warner West End, 15, 113 mins  
Mechanical film noir



Father figure: Paul Rudd's gay George is the prime candidate when pregnant Jennifer Aniston needs a man to help to bring up her child in *The Object of My Affection*

tor is also someone to reckon with: he is Guillermo del Toro, the Mexican director who scored a hit with his vampire feast, *Cronos*.

That film had quite a poetic lilt; this film, his American debut, is flat-footed. But there is no doubting del Toro's knack for generating doom-laden atmosphere: after spending time in these tunnels, our own Northern Line takes on quite a sunny aspect. And horror fans should enjoy the gore as monstrous insects fly through the air and smack their lips at the prospect of another meal. As horror films go, *Mimic* could be better, and it could be worse.

Two years ago, when Jacques Doillon's *Ponette* premiered at the Venice Film Festival, conservation raged when Victoire Thivisol won the Best Actress prize. Not that her performance was bad; but this performer was only four years old. Tongues also wagged because of the film's subject-matter: here was Doillon, a director known for his empathy with youth, encouraging a tot to open herself up to death, grief and abandonment - matters difficult enough for adults to shoulder.

In the opening minutes, Ponette's mother dies in a car crash. Ponette survives with a broken arm. With a business trip looming, her father parks her with an aunt and young cousins in the mountainous Rhône-Alpes region. Everyone tries to console her; but how can a little girl make sense of things and ease the heartache?

A psychoanalyst was available to monitor the young performers, and to advise Doillon to stop shooting if matters became difficult. In the event, no crisis was reached; and any qualms audiences might feel should be knocked aside by the film's power and sincerity. It is often harrowing to watch: Doillon's focus on death is unrelenting, and the mountain village set-

ting gives few chances for visual diversions. Time and again we are drawn back to Thivisol's face, with its wondering eyes and forlorn little mouth; we are drawn, too, into her mind, as she plays imaginary games, piecing together her own beliefs from the mythologies of others. No other performer matters much, though Xavier Beauvois and Marie Trintignant add weight and poignancy as Ponette's parents.

Death stalks another film this week, *Journey to the Beginning of the World*: you see it lurking in Marcello Mastroianni's face. He died of cancer shortly after filming, late in 1996. But there is nothing morbid about this refreshing and reflective work, the latest from the Portuguese master Manoel de Oliveira, 90 this year. Usually his films interweave formal games with philosophical debate. Here his approach is less cerebral:

characters even act like recognisable human beings. Mastroianni assumes some attributes of Oliveira himself: they share the same first name, occupation and Panama hat. This Manoel is going on a journey, partly into his own past, partly into the family background of a French actor of Portuguese origin (Jean-Yves Gautier). They drive through the countryside: they muse about memory and metaphor. Eventually

they reach Gautier's elderly aunt, never before seen: cue for a funny, touching scene as different generations and languages struggle to connect. The film still counts as high cinematic art, but it is never aloof: with Mastroianni, human frailty is right before our eyes, and such is the film's beauty and tenderness that we willingly go wherever Oliveira's camera takes us. Do try this journey.

The Grim Reaper is also out and about in the British film *Girls' Night*. This is a gargoyles: a television-style project yanked out of shape by the old belief that an injection of things American fortifies box-office prospects. If Kay Mellor's tear-stained comedy script had stayed put in Lancashire to watch Julie Walters and Brenda Blethyn win the bingo jackpot and cope with breast cancer, things might have been, if not well, then at least all of a piece. But by packing the pair off to Las Vegas, and shoe-horning Kris Kristofferson into scenes, the modest virtues of British comic realism disappear in smoke.

## 'Feel-bad movie'

Every week young film fans discuss the latest releases...

Even without the stonions and rhinestones, *Girls' Night* would be hard to swallow. Walters is horribly strident, dressed in Gracie Fields's mantle as queen of the factory floor. Place her next to Blethyn, whining away, and you have the double act from hell. Real experiences of courage in the face of death may well lie behind Mellor's script, but after the stars' assaults, Nick Hurran's bald direction, and the forced-American, little seems real beyond the audience's nausea.

**THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION**  
Leslie Isiah Thomas, 20: Jennifer Aniston's attempt to throw off her *Friends* persona is a great big failure. She has everything but acting talent. Emma Rolph, 19: 90 per cent depressing, 10 per cent laughs. Is this really how you want to spend an evening?

Carl Clark, 19: It has its moments, but not enough for me to recommend this movie. Alison Juliard, 20: I expected a bright and breezy comedy. Instead I got a film in which almost every relationship fails. A feel-bad movie.

**GIRLS' NIGHT**  
Leslie: Big on stereotypes, low on chuckles. Very average fare.

Emma: An awkward mix of laughter and tears. Carl: A very well-meaning film but as a piece of entertainment, it sucks. Alison: Without the skill of Blethyn and Walters this would be atrocious.

**MIMIC**  
Leslie: Absolutely horrible - I can't wait to see it again! Emma: Enjoyable nonsense. Carl: Mira Sorvino is wonderful as the scientist battling to save the world. A real treat. Alison: You don't need your brain for this one. Just sit back and enjoy.

### NEW ON VIDEO

**GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE**  
Buena Vista, U, 1997

A LATE 1960s TV cartoon series comes to the movies in live-action form, with Brendan Fraser as the Tarzan-like hero, a plane crash survivor raised in the jungle by an educated ape. He meets his first humans when he rescues a socialite (the winsome Leslie Mann) on safari. Something like love blooms, and America beckons. An amiable family film, not too reliant on special effects, and not too painful for parents sitting on the sofa with their kids. John Cleese provides the voice of the ape. Available to rent.

James Spader, Holly Hunter and Elias Koteas are the brave actors involved. Available to rent.

**LAWN DOGS**  
Film Four, 15, 1997

JOHN DUGAN, the Australian director of *Flirting and Sirens*, seems right at home among the manicured Kentucky suburbs in this imaginative drama about the odd friendship between a ten-year-old girl and the working-class lad who mows her lawn. Ten-year-old Mischa Barton is wonderfully natural as the troubled girl marooned in her well-heeled enclave, and Sam Rockwell glows with dangerous fire as her fellow outsider, taunted by local layabouts. Dugan's eye for exotic physical detail is much in evidence; so is his interest in sexual matters, though he shows discretion handling material open to abuse. Available to rent.

**SPEAK EASILY**  
Orbit, Screen Classics, U, 1932

WITH the onset of sound, Buster Keaton lost his independence, his dignity and most of his distinction; being an alcoholic didn't help either. This MGM comedy about a timid professor who gets involved in show business is bad enough, though



Brendan Fraser, Leslie Mann in *George of the Jungle*

others from the 1930s are worse. The funniest performances are all given by others: Jimmy Durante as the vaudeville troupe's ring-leader, Thelma Todd as a seductive floozy. One for film buffs only.

**THE SWARM**  
Warner, 12, 1978

AS THE airplane pilot cries early on: "Oh my God - bees, bees, millions of bees!" Millions of clichés too in Irwin Allen's most preposterous disaster movie, in which Michael Caine, Katharine Ross and a wide-ranging selection of Hollywood notables past and present get stung to the quick. Quite endearing, especially placed next to today's equivalents, though the late-blooming romance between Fred MacMurray and Olivia de Havilland takes some swallowing. Other gems from the producer are also available, including *Meteor*, *The Towering Inferno* and *Beyond the Poseidon Adventure*.

Geoff Brown

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Jean Brodie opens

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NEW WEST END SHOWS

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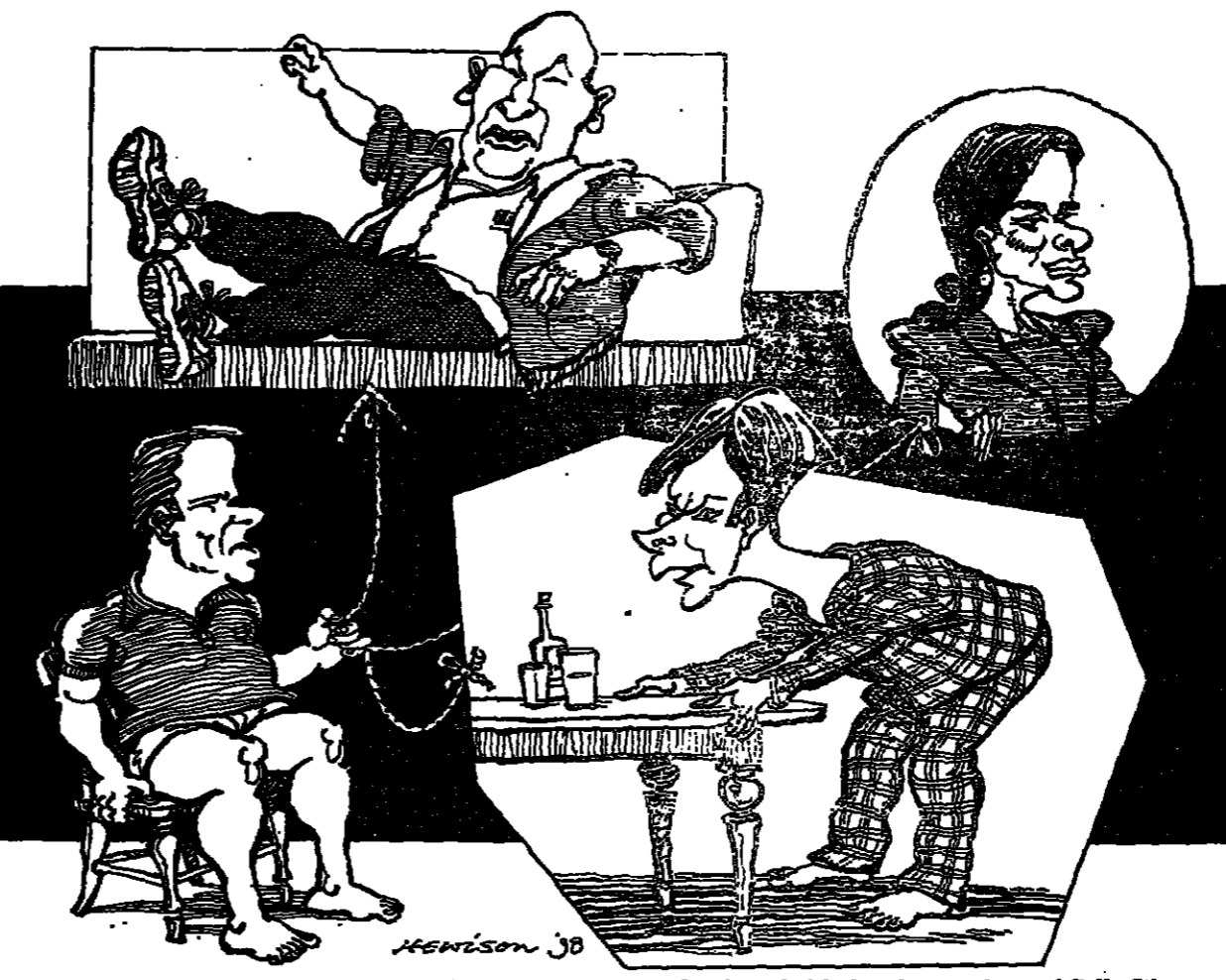
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- THE GENERAL (18): Dynamic portrait of the burgeoning East... THE WEDDING SINGER (12): Will Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore...

ARTS

Hell is your own people

Until this fascinating, troubling trio of plays appeared in America last year, the most direct access to David Mamet's mind was through his essays...



David Mamet's past imperfect: (clockwise from top left) Linal Haft, Diana Quick, Zoë Wanamaker and Colin Stinton

THEATRE

THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD: New David Mamet play, vigorously constructed, reveals the influence of post-war present...

presumption of a stepfather who has recently rung her up to tell her he does not like the way she is raising her children...

his own disagreeable memories, like the guilt he felt when he was not grateful enough for the gift of a raincoat...

the bosom of his family. The other two plays, less sombre and more comic though they are...

there is no future in their relationship. "Goodbye, love," they gently tell each other...

Obeying disorder

There could not be a cruder clash of culture than that between the opening fixture of the Festival of Central European Culture...

Noh for an answer

The awkward title of this double bill does have the virtue of describing its contents. Zeami's Noh play The Well-Stone...

Resonances of Passion

The awkward title of this double bill does have the virtue of describing its contents. Zeami's Noh play The Well-Stone...

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OPERA & BALLET: THE ROYAL BALLET, ROMEO & JULIET, THE BRUCKER, THE WICKED

THEATRES: APOLLO VIBRO, STARBUCK EXPRESS, AN IDEAL HUSBAND, WEBSIDE DOWN THE WIND

THEATRES: THE REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY, THE WOMAN IN BLACK, AN INSPECTOR CALLS

THEATRES: THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, THE WOMAN IN BLACK, AN INSPECTOR CALLS

THEATRES: THE WOMAN IN BLACK, AN INSPECTOR CALLS, THE WEDDING SINGER

THEATRES: THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER

THEATRES: THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER

THEATRES: THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER

THEATRES: THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER

THEATRES: THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER, THE WEDDING SINGER

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WEST END BEST!

298,000 READERS OF THIS SECTION ATTEND THE THEATRE AT LEAST 2/3 TIMES A YEAR...



Handwritten text at the top of the page.

OPERA

Crossing Irish borders

ARTS

TOMORROW

The latest pop releases

Ireland treads the borders

OPERA: Divided communities are voting for peace in a musical way, says Hilary Finch

A sea mist rolls in from Lough Foyle. In Strabane, a Nationalist community surrounded by a Protestant sea...

A charmed brooch which passes through seven generations, a wild ceiliidh: a storytelling contest, a bewitching, and a transformation. The supernatural may well turn out to have more far-reaching effects...

The company arrived with nine members of Scottish Opera's outreach unit, a truckful of props, a portable recording studio — and a story. Director Jane Davidson and librettist Ross Stenhouse found an Irish version of a Hebridean folk tale...



"In our hearts and our lives, we'll never forget this": Scottish Opera's "cross-border project", Cliona's Wave, with Debra Stuart as the Fairy Queen

border project. What exactly is it expected to deliver? Max Beer, Border Reach's arts projects co-ordinator, admits: "It would be naive to think an opera will solve political and social problems. But we're willing to do anything just to bring people together."

Angela McLaughlin, the project development officer at Co-operation North, also admits: "We're not out to change the world. But we can work on social inclusion. On involving those who have no voice, be they ex-prisoners, victims of violence, travellers. Arts projects are the easiest of all ways, because they are totally unthreatening."

In drama, in opera, you can explore issues relevant to two cultural traditions — with no agenda. And in doing so, respect and mutual understanding are born. People everywhere are so enthusiastic, so willing to be involved in a project like this. There's a real sense of hope."

At the penultimate rehearsal for this weekend's performances in Strabane and Donegall, Ursula Laeubli of the Derry-based dance company Echo Echo teaches five young girls to dance like a wave of the sea. Sligo-born tenor James Nelson gives the chorus expert coaching...

When Wagner fled his creditors in Riga in 1839, the journey to London took him three weeks, most of it spent on a stormy voyage which partly inspired the composition of Der fliegende Holländer. Today it is possible to get from one city to the other in less than three hours. But even in our shrunken world, Riga maintains its individuality, not least in its operatic culture.

Sounds to set the spirit soaring

The City of London Festival, which makes a feature of matching unusual programmes to special venues, has set itself a challenge for future seasons: it will be hard to improve on this year's opening concert on Tuesday, a rich performance of Rachmaninov's Vespers by the St Petersburg Chamber Choir in St Paul's Cathedral.

CONCERTS St Petersburg Chamber Choir St Paul's Cathedral

essence of old Russian chant, communicating his deep attachment to the sounds of traditional Russia. They range from the serene to the exultant, yet most have a melancholic solemnity even when the texts are full of rejoicing. The St Petersburgers sang with fervour and sometimes drama under their excellent founder-director, Nikolai Korniev. At least beneath the cathedral's dome, the 40-strong chorus had keen attack and produced well-blended though never homogenous tone. The voices had plenty of individuality, yet they sang with unanimity in the rhythms so suggestive of slowly-swaying censors. Solos by a dusky contralto and high tenor underlined the variety of Rachmaninov's tone-painting, but this is a work in which individual moments add up to a greater whole, and the performance made that thrillingly clear.

JOHN ALLISON

Exemplary idiom

Slovak glass sculpture; Slovenian sound-systems; essays on theatre and the end of ideology: London's sprawling Festival of Central European Culture is up to us. It has been organised with canny opportunism by the Austrian Cultural Institute as their country takes over the presidency of the EU. And what better fanfare than a concert by the Austro-Hungarian Haydn Orchestra, formed in 1987 just as that first border fence was about to be breached...

Austro-Hungarian Haydn Orchestra Barbican

grape-treading Minuet. Adam Fischer takes such care in balancing his instrumental ensemble that cross-currents of melody and waltzes of accent are frequently uncovered as if for the first time. And elusive strains of distant folk musics from a border region rich in emigrant and immigrant cultures become newly apparent in the bows of those for whom this music is bred in the bone. Mozart's Prague Symphony concluded a concert which had begun by appearing to transform the acoustic of the Barbican Hall itself. Using only a dozen strings, and as many voices in the choir of The New Company, Fischer tuned his forces as if to the close focus of Eisenstadt's little Bergkirche for a performance of Haydn's Salve Regina in G minor. Although the soloists from within the choir were disappointingly weak, their corporate voices blended eloquently with the orchestra's own matchless ensemble.

HILARY FINCH

Return to a Baltic state of operatic grace

When Wagner fled his creditors in Riga in 1839, the journey to London took him three weeks, most of it spent on a stormy voyage which partly inspired the composition of Der fliegende Holländer. Today it is possible to get from one city to the other in less than three hours. But even in our shrunken world, Riga maintains its individuality, not least in its operatic culture.

Neat programming meant that the Holländer was one of the works featured in this month's first- ever Riga Opera Festival. Planned as an annual event, this inaugural festival provided a showcase for the work of the Latvian National Opera, and signalled a turnaround in the company's fortunes.

NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Parodies, a birthday party and Victorian voices. VOCAL: Barry Millington. HOLLOWAY: Fantasy-Pieces: Serenade in C. Spence/Nash Ensemble/Brabbins. OPERA: John Higgins. CHORAL: Hilary Finch. VICTORIA: The Call of the Beloved.

Riga Festival Latvia. The Latvian National Opera, and signalled a turnaround in the company's fortunes. The once-famous company, which in its heyday was rated third for opera and ballet in the Soviet Union after the Bolshoi and Kirov, underwent a period of stagnation in the late 1980s.

FREE SLAZENGER TENNIS BALLS. Today, The Times, in association with Slazenger, is giving away 15,000 three-ball tubes of exclusive Wimbledon HI-VIS tennis balls, worth £5.99 each. To obtain one of these three-ball tubes, simply collect the first token which was published with an application form in the Wimbledon Supplement, free with Monday's Times.

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■ PAGING THE WORLD  
Dunmore on Winterson

BOOKS

■ PEARLY KING  
Joseph Roth

Not always  
the good guys

In the first half of this century more than 60 million Europeans died in wars or through terror by the State. Since 1950 the number has been well under one million. Most of us would see this as a sign of moral progress, even if the savage wars in Yugoslavia are a warning against complacency. The European ideal of democracy has triumphed — or so says the myth.

For as Mark Mazower argues in this brilliant but disturbing history of Europe, it was never preordained that "Western liberal values" should prevail. Nor should we assume that Europe is the "natural homeland of democracy". Communism and fascism very nearly triumphed on a continent where liberalism collapsed during the Depression and most people welcomed their extreme alternatives to parliamentary rule. Nazism, in particular, had much deeper roots in European society than we care now to admit. Nationalism, racism and imperialism were the order of the day — from London to Berlin — and Hitler could have got his way.

The postwar return to democracy was largely an experiment, as Mazower points out. Democratic values remained weak. Denazification was a sham. Racism continued to be a fact of life, even if it was no longer sponsored by the State or (until Bosnia) spilling into wars. And if democracy has ultimately triumphed, it is less a victory of "European values" than a result of the facts that it allows us to switch off from politics, and that capitalism allows us to grow rich. We Europeans have grown fat and dull.

*Dark Continent* should be read by everyone who derives any pride from the title "European". It is not a conventional history of Europe — more a series of related essays on democracy and its enemies in the 20th century. Mazower's main focus is the Nazi threat — and intellectual debt — to the liberal European tradition. His

Orlando Figes  
takes a stern  
look at  
Fascist Europe

controversial thesis is bound to stir debate.

Mazower maintains that the European empires were the inspiration of the Fascist states. Hitler saw the Ukraine as his "Indian Empire". True, the old empires were not racially exclusive and liberal practices were widely found in them. But the national (and increasingly nationalist) states that emerged in Europe after 1918 shared the imperial goals and racial attitudes of the ruling circles in



London and Paris. Anti-Semitism was commonplace in Europe. Programmes of racial engineering — from eugenics to health and fitness — were championed by Churchill as well as by Hitler, albeit to less sinister ends. And these attitudes, combined with a fear of communism, led many in the West to justify authoritarian forms of rule, if not for Britain then for Italy or Spain.

In sum, according to Mazower, "opinion in Europe at the end of the 1930s was by no means opposed to the idea of an authoritarian reconstruction of the continent under German leadership". The Allies did not win the war. Hitler lost it. The violence of the Nazi war regime alienated populations that had welcomed him, such as the Ukrainians and the French.

The chapters on the Right are by far the best part of the book. Mazower established his deservedly high reputation as an historian with the acclaimed

*Inside Hitler's Greece* (1993), and he writes with a real feel for Fascist politics in southern Europe — where it coexisted with the old élites (the Church, the military and the landowners) — although there is surprisingly little on Franco's Spain. There are also superbly crafted essays on the margins between fascism and democracy — on minorities and migrants, attitudes to race and the family, and the role of the State in the economy and society.

But the chapters on the Left are less convincing. Mazower confesses in the preface that he chose to focus less on communism because its "impact upon democracy... was less threatening than the challenge posed by Hitler". This may seem an odd view to the millions of people in the former Soviet bloc who have spent the better part of the past half-century struggling for basic democratic rights. Hitler, after all, lasted 12 years in power; Lenin and his successors over 70. Yet Stalin's Terror warrants only passing reference — the gulags almost none. Mazower, it seems, takes a benign view of communism, crediting it with mass support and real achievements in Eastern Europe after 1945.

This makes Mazower's account of its collapse — which underestimates the moral intelligence of the ideal of liberty rather unconvincing too. For while he may be right that in Western Europe we have all grown tired of politics, that was surely not the case in Eastern Europe, where many thought the values of democracy were to die for.

Perhaps Mazower is right to say that in the end it is capitalism and not democracy which has won from the collapse of communism. Perhaps in the East, as well as in the West, we are all now consumers before citizens. But if this superb book is a frightening reminder of how fragile democracy has been, we have lived through enough events in recent years to know how precious it is too.



Best of British? Taken from Gavin Watson's cult classic *Skins*, published by ST Publishing, priced £8.99

Jewel  
in his  
crown

THERE'S Henry Roth, the author of *Call It Sleep*, and there's Philip Roth, the author of *Portnoy's Complaint*, and then there's Joseph Roth. They should not be confused. Joseph Roth is a great writer, and, along with Musil, the chronicler of the last years of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. But "chronicler" is the wrong word (reading Roth makes one more aware than usual of our natural tendency to go for the expected word which is usually the wrong word); it suggests long, serious novels full of "themes" and "issues", interminable family sagas, whereas Roth's novels are light, almost airy, constantly surprising in their change of direction.

What are they like then? As Michael Hofmann points out in his excellent introduction, they are brilliantly plotted while seeming to jump arbitrarily from point to point and to leave characters behind just as we have started to know them. It is not that Roth is uninterested in character, but he does not believe that psychology is the way to truth. Rather, in biblical fashion — he is the only writer I know to have written a successful modern Job — he lets what happens take precedence over



both meaning and character. In this case (*The String of Pearls* was written in the late 1930s and published in 1939, the year of Roth's death at the tragically early age of 45) what happens is that the Shah of Persia decides to visit Vienna. Seeing a beautiful countess at a reception, he demands to sleep with her. How to avoid a diplomatic debacle? Captain Taiffinger, a young cavalry officer, finds the solution: his former lover, now a prostitute, looks very like the countess (indeed, it was his failure with the latter that led him to take up with little Mitzi Schinagl).

So, unknowing, the Shah spends the night with her, and leaves her a priceless string of jewels as recompense. The rest of the novel follows the fortunes of the pearls and charts the havoc they wreak on all who come into contact with them. The book ends with a second visit by the Shah, many years later. To coincide with this, the Viennese crowds are being entertained by a waxworks show owned and performed by Mitzi, of the story of that first visit. But by now "poor Taiffinger" has shot himself ("I think he lost his way in life. It happens. A man can lose his way"), and many other lives have been made or ruined, while the reader has been taken on a ride through *fin de siècle* Austro-Hungary. There won't be a better, funnier book published this year. As always, Michael Hofmann's translation is a joy to read.

Voyage to the light

First collections of short stories or of poems carry a cargo of the writer's past. Written over years, then collected, they reveal each style, preoccupation or passion of their time. If they are good, they will be bound together across eight or ten years by the imaginative charge which the writer leaves in them. The stories talk to one another, and this communication — or even friction — creates something beyond the individuality of each story.

The stories in *The World and Other Places* were written over the 12 years since the publication of *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit*. In 1985, the freedom and vigour of Winterson's imagination was irresistible, and readers succumbed in their hundreds of thousands. Like Muhammad Ali, Winterson knew that she

Helen  
Dunmore gets  
world-wise  
THE WORLD AND OTHER PLACES  
By Jeanette Winterson  
Jonathan Cape, £14.99  
ISBN 0 234 05136 9

and *Other Places* comes from that once upon a time. This is one of the two stories about animals which frame the collection. *Psalms* brings together a fervently religious mother, a deadpan child who has the air of biding her time, and a tortoise called *Psalms*, a suitable pet for a little girl who is being reared in the ways of the Lord. We are in the land of *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit*, and nothing could be more comic, enchanting or accurate. A tortoise is chosen because "It was not cuddly, so I wouldn't be distracted, as I might with a dog, and it had very little visible personality, so there was no possibility of an intellectual bond, as there might have been with a parrot." The child has visions of an anarchic white rabbit called Ezra, the tortoise drowns, but anarchy survives.



Winterson: earthy writing

had a rare talent. In her sinuously brilliant use of language, she too floated like a butterfly and stung like a bee. Perhaps the brag of a male boxer is more socially acceptable than that of a female writer. Winterson came to be thought hubristic and the relative failure of *Written on the Body* was greeted in some quarters with more glee than disappointment, as the first sign of nemesis. In her *Aetherword* to the stories, Winterson writes "... *The Guardian*, *The Observer*, *The Independent* are not supporters of mine. In the early days I couldn't get work off them and nowadays they pretend to have loved my every line... once upon a time... when I could write."

The *24-Hour Dog* opens the book, but was written much later than *Psalms*. Here the narrator is adult, contemplating the irruption of new life into her own, and the fearful responsibility for bringing another being to consciousness. "He was to be my dog, shot out of a spring litter, a coil of happiness." The dog, "soft as rainwater", skittering, responsive, ardent, brimful of "jouissance", does something terrible to the narrator. It exposes her, as a child exposes its mother. The dog has to go back, because the changes it will bring are unbearable, but not before it has been named. Naming is a magical act, and marks possession: one could say that it is an easy way out of the hard work of living with a dog, or a child. The story accepts that this could be said, and yet insists on its own truth. The fluidity of the writing, the fusion of intellect and physicality in the writing, and the dryness of humour

make it one of Winterson's best. The Bible is everywhere in *The World and Other Places*. Winterson is saturated in its litanies, images and parables. *The lover is to be blessed and worshipped*, for she is worthy of praise, a pearl of great price. Winterson has the rhythms of an evangelist as she praises the body in nakedly sexual incantations. Her upbringing in a religious sect has left an enduring pattern of seeing "the world" as something outer and exterior, to be contrasted with authentic personal experience. She asserts the primacy of the imagination, as Blake did, and insists on the rarity of her vision. "My feelings for you are biblical: that is they are intense, reckless, arrogant, risky and unconcerned with the ways of the world." Winterson might be describing her own stories.

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Thurs July 9 7:30pm Under Siege: Poetry from Bosnia  
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BRANCHING OUT Murray Bail

BOOKS

A MAN'S WORLD Alan Hollinghurst

Feminist icon, loving wife and Queen of Hearts — after taking an introductory course in Dianology, Ben Pimlott is left wanting more

Royal doormat or dear doyenne?

How long before an enterprising university establishes a chair in the new discipline of Dianology? The idea isn't completely absurd...

DIANA By Julie Burchill... DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES How Sexual Politics Shook the Monarchy By Beatrix Campbell...



Diana unmasked: two stories from the heart

"Diana Spencer seemed in some small way Jewish", in contrast to the "deeply Anglo-Saxon" Windsors... Both authors remark on Diana's talent for dealing with ordinary people...

Both authors remark on Diana's talent for dealing with ordinary people. Yet key questions are dodged. Burchill quotes an Aids worker: "A handshake from her is worth a hundred thousand words from us..."

Felipe Fernández-Armesto on British conquest

In the eyes of the world the English are a fearsome people, who create empires with ease and abandon them with profligacy...

The Empire struck back

THE OXFORD HISTORY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE Volume 1: The Origins of Empire... Volume 2: The 18th Century...

introductory. By comparison with her rivals, "Merrie England" made puny imperial efforts in the Elizabethan and Stuart eras...

The magic far-away tree



A magical, fairytale-inspired story of the princess and the tree: the bloodwood Eucalyptus terminalis found in Ayers Rock, Australia

Not just a pretty face

WITH his first two novels, Alan Hollinghurst seemed to have found his niche. Unapologetically gay men, preferably with private incomes...

THE SPELL By Alan Hollinghurst... Hollinghurst maturing follows them with non-judgmental compassion...

young Danny, and embarks on a bewildering voyage of self-discovery in a drug-fueled London club scene...

Once upon a time there was a man — what's wrong with that? Nothing, nothing at all; and you might say that it is, after all, the way all the best stories start...

Erica Wagner EUCALYPTUS By Murray Bail... Bail makes it a strange, beautiful, compelling novel. Modern writers — Carter, Steinbeck, Calvino — have often taken folk and fairytales and recast them to their own ends...

men who come to win Ellen's hand, told particularly by the one suitor who seems to have a chance of charming Ellen, a stranger who appears, asleep — remember, it's usually the princess who's asleep, not the prince — beneath that scrubby staple of Australian song, a Coolibah tree (E. microtheca)...

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LONG HAUL

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RACING: TOTE CONTRIBUTES TO FUNDING FOR LAUNCH OF FREE FORM GUIDE FOR RACEGOERS

Goodwood helps pinpoint the winners

By CHRIS McGRATH

AS THE most direct and pliable conduit between betting turnover and the prosperity of racing, the Tote is vital to almost any serious ambitions for the sport's future.

Thunderer napped Indian Missile (6-1) at Salisbury yesterday, when Richard Evans landed his best bet. Ben Gunn (4-1), and Timekeeper (James Willoughby) selected the first four winners.

Between the Tote and the racecourse, which has secured backing from the meeting's principal sponsor, Vodafone. A similarly positive reception from other leading tracks and the Racecourse Association has ensured that the experiment should evolve into a regular feature of any major meeting worthy of its status.

The form guide fills a niche in the market between the rudiments offered in a conventional racecard and the information packed into the trade daily, Racing Post. Its intention is to illuminate the wide spectrum of Tote bets available to punters, especially those novices who can be intimidated by anything more than a straightforward win bet.

"It can be difficult to portray the full range of bets to racegoers, especially inexperienced ones," Rob Hartnett, spokesman for the Tote said.

"The important thing for us is that it helps make Tote betting more accessible. We need to educate people about the options. Overseas, there is much more of a culture of looking at those bets with potential for a big return.

"Racing tends not to appreciate how daunting a first day at the races can be. This is designed to make people feel at home, enhance their enjoyment and get them coming back."

Rod Fabricius runs Goodwood in a fashion that offers something of a weather-vane for progressive racecourses, and he is enthusiastic about launching the concept.

"It should be particularly well received by the casual or infrequent racegoer and improve their chances of a big win for a small stake," he said. Terry Barwick, at Vodafone, didn't need to have the philosophy explained to him - he was keen to get involved straightaway.

Along with the big screen, it strengthens their identity at the July meeting. Nothing gets the turnstiles moving, of course, like a good grey horse. But Silver Patriarch, who consolidated his public following by winning the Coronation Cup at Epsom, may warm up for the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes in the relative privacy of Paris on Sunday.

He is among the acceptors for the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud - along with Komarov, his narrowly consecutive Newmarket racegoers in the spring. Richard Hughes has been given the ride on Sunshine Street in Sunday's Budweiser Irish Derby. He takes over from John Murtagh, who has been claimed to partner Takarian.



Walter Swinburn swoops over Ben Gunn to capture the Noel Cannon Memorial Trophy at Salisbury yesterday

placepot and dual forecast. It will very much comprise an independent look at the form. The important thing for us is that it helps make Tote betting more accessible. We need to educate people about the options. Overseas, there is much more of a culture of looking at those bets with potential for a big return.

"Racing tends not to appreciate how daunting a first day at the races can be. This is designed to make people feel at home, enhance their enjoyment and get them coming back."

Rod Fabricius runs Goodwood in a fashion that offers something of a weather-vane for progressive racecourses, and he is enthusiastic about launching the concept.

"It should be particularly well received by the casual or infrequent racegoer and improve their chances of a big win for a small stake," he said. Terry Barwick, at Vodafone, didn't need to have the philosophy explained to him - he was keen to get involved straightaway.

Along with the big screen, it strengthens their identity at the July meeting. Nothing gets the turnstiles moving, of course, like a good grey horse. But Silver Patriarch, who consolidated his public following by winning the Coronation Cup at Epsom, may warm up for the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes in the relative privacy of Paris on Sunday.

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RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S SIX MEETINGS

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Table of race results for Richard Evans, including details of winners and odds.

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SALISBURY

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Table of race results for Salisbury 5.40 Alington Maiden Handicap (continued), including winners and odds.

CARLISLE

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NEWCASTLE

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Advertisement for Vodafone evening rates, featuring a large image of a horse and rider.

Utley c foul on discipline injustice

Utley c foul on discipline injustice

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RUGBY UNION

Utley cries foul over disciplinary 'injustice'

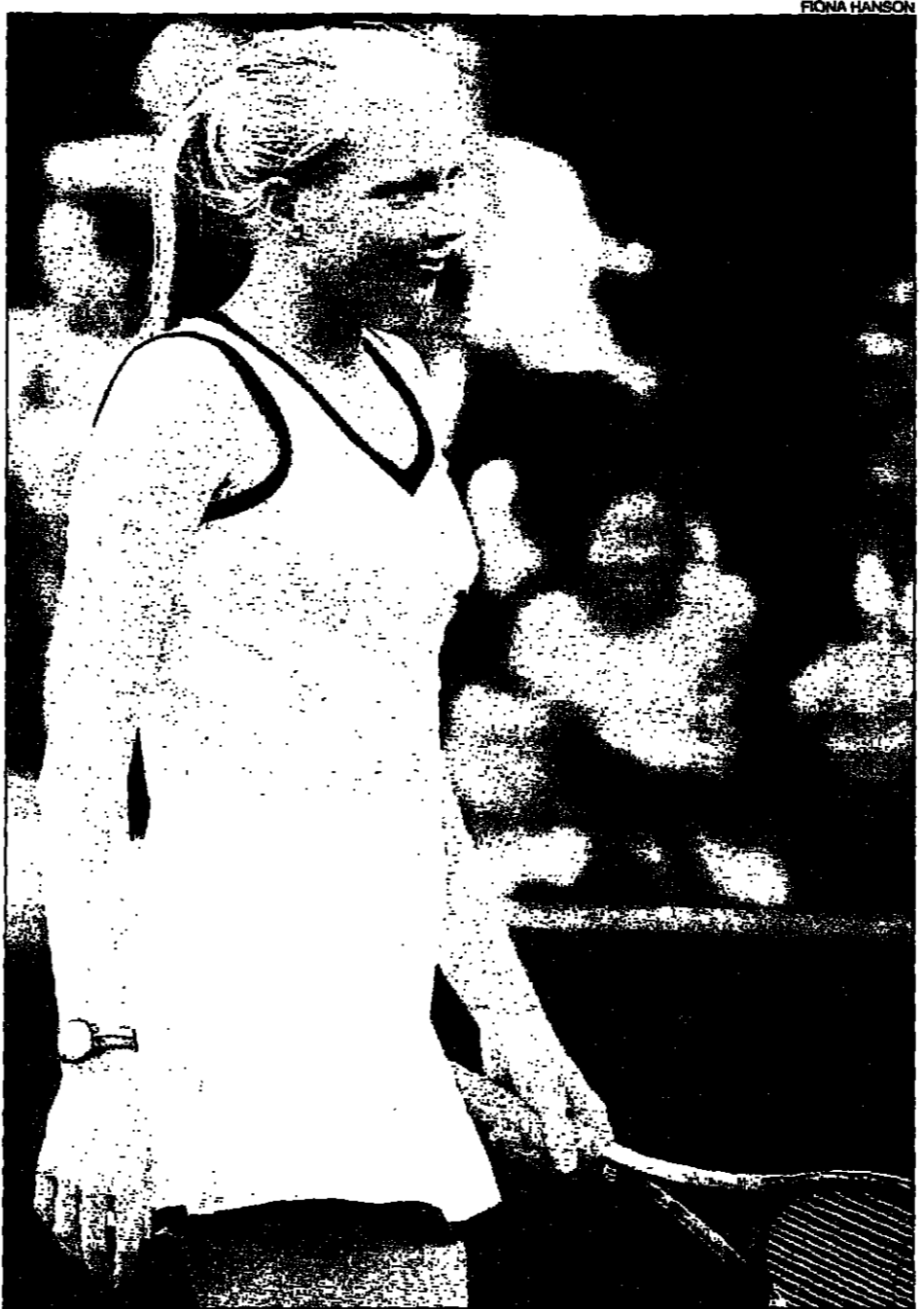
FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT IN AUCKLAND
WHEN you have lost five successive touring matches, conceding 50 points or more in four of them...

and a suspension. In the second incident, there is no reaction at all, despite the fact that a boot came into contact with a head...

It's a hard road, following mum



AS Wimbledon began to serve up its annual delights, a handful of British women set out on what looked to be a forlorn quest - to raise their profiles to the same levels as those of Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski...



Janes, whose mother, Christine, reached the final, is missing Wimbledon
ing to be and, actually, although she can sound a bit spacey, she's very switched on about what's needed and when...

GOLF

Montgomerie returns to civilisation

IT MIGHT all be sweetness and light for Colin Montgomerie as he negotiates what he hopes and trusts will be 72 holes in the Peugeot French Open in the next four days...



Montgomerie positive
is he who can be so sanguine about the sort of insult that would induce shocked silence in a Bronx bordello...

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES
LEGAL NOTICES
Notices of Appointment of Administrative Receivers...

BROADCASTING STANDARDS COMMISSION
Complaint by MR DEREK HUMPHRY
Summary of Adjudication

WORD-WATCHING
By Philip Howard
HIPPEASTRUM
a. A horse dancer
b. A race track
c. A bulb

Academics lose
An interesting contest was held over the weekend at Pizza Express in London, when a team of academics (comprised of former Oxford and Cambridge players) was crushed by a team of Philistines (non-Oxbridge).
Diagram of final position

University bowlers give best to Kirsten

By IVO TENNANT
FENNER'S first day of three South Africans won toss; British Universities, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 380 runs behind the South Africans

THE South Africans were at ease with themselves at sunrise Fenner's yesterday, as well they should have been after their great triumph at Lord's. Their rigid professionalism, though, ensured that their approach to this match, ostensibly a friendly affair, was to quell any uppity students. Gary Kirsten made an unbeaten 205, his highest score for his country.

This was Kirsten's third century of the tour and there was something of the Boycott mentality about his innings here. His driving was controlled, his placement of the ball assured, his rate of scoring altering little throughout the day. When he had made 180, he went down the pitch to Loveridge's leg spin and gave a chance to Bailey, the wicket-keeper. That was all.

Quite what purpose it served to have him bat throughout the innings was another matter. Kallis achieved his first century on this tour, an unbeaten 106, and Liebenberg, who has little chance of playing in the third Test next week, a half-century. The South Africans could, though, have done with McMillan having a decent innings, as well as getting one or two others to the crease.

None of the seven bowlers used by British Universities, whose players come from just four institutions - Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, and Loughborough - could restrict the flow of runs, which came steadily at four an over. For the record, Kirsten reached his double century, which included 22 fours, off 319 balls. He hit the ball in the air only when a gap in the field ensured that the shot could be played with an absence of risk. Kallis's century was reached off 201 balls, with ten fours and a six. The Universities lost Wagh, leg-before in Elworthy's opening over, after Cronje declared.

SOUTH AFRICANS: First Innings
G Kirsten not out 205
G F J Liebenberg run out 106
J H Kallis not out 106
Extras (9: 2, 4, 4, 3, nb 17) 31
Total (1 wk dec) 384
D J Croux, B M McMillan, W J Cronje, M V Boucher, P L Symcox, S Elworthy, M Hayward and N Hines not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-137

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES: First Innings
M A Wagh bowled by Elworthy 0
E F Smith not out 0
M J Charlton not out 0
Extras (nb 4) 4
Total (1 wk) 4
A Singh, W J House, G H Loveridge, T M B Bailey, D Leather, S R G Francis, M K Davies and B L Hutton not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2
BOWLING: Elworthy 2-30-10-1; Hayward 2-0-4-0

COLWYN BAY (Minor Counties Wales won toss): Minor Counties Wales, with all wickets in hand, need 232 runs to beat Nottinghamshire
FEW minor counties teams field as fluently as Wales did yesterday and not many first-class counties face such zealous batting conditions in NatWest Trophy matches as those which confronted Nottinghamshire after a start delayed for almost five hours.

A damp, often untrustworthy pitch, allied with a miserly attack featuring Barwick, 37, a Glamorgan stalwart for 16 years, turned this game into a real challenge rather than a day's outing beside the briny. Gallian scored a fourth consecutive half-century after his return from a

CRICKET: AMATEURS' VICTORY REWARDED WITH HOME TIE IN NATWEST TROPHY SECOND ROUND

Scotland strike blow for underdogs

IT MAY seem small consolation to the disconsolate Taran Army trailing home from France, but Scotland's cricketers restored national sporting pride yesterday by producing the biggest upset in the NatWest Trophy for ten years. Scotland, who will play in the World Cup next summer, hung on gamely for a four-run win over Worcestershire at the Grange ground, in Edinburgh, becoming the first amateur side to overturn first-class opposition, outside the artificial bowl-outs, since Cheshire's one-run defeat of Northamptonshire in 1988.

Elsewhere, the underdogs had only morsels to cheer them, though in one case at least it was a memorable morsel. At Edgbaston, where rain was a persistent menace, a 22-year-old Irish off spinner, recently graduated from the University of Ulster, became the latest man to dismiss Brian Lara without scoring. The Warwickshire and West Indies captain was out to the sixth ball he received, and his first after being bowled by Kyle McCallan. It was Lara's third wicket in four innings for the county, but with Nick Knight making an untroubled century, Warwickshire still look dominant in a tie that will continue today.

Glamorgan have business to conclude at Cardiff, too, though it should be a formality after they scored 373 for seven, a county record in the competition. Steve James, Adrian Dale and Tony Cottee were the principal contributors to Bedfordshire's thankless toil. Surrey, who began the day as the bookmakers' favourites, also exceeded 300 against Buckinghamshire at The Oval, but it was not quite the massacre that had seemed likely during an opening stand between Alex Stewart and Jason Ratcliffe that occupied more than half the innings. Stewart made 97 off 106 balls, but Tim Scriven, the former Somerset left-arm spin bowler, now a wine salesman, took three for 27, including Alistair Brown first ball, to restrict

Surrey to 315 for nine - enough for a comfortable win by 132 runs. There was a similarly easy passage for Middlesex across the river at Lord's. Herefordshire acquitted themselves well to total 213, with half-centuries from Sylvester and Hall, and managed to dismiss Mark Ramprakash, the home captain, cheaply. A century from Justin Langer, the prolific Australian, soon took the game beyond them. Chris Lewis, doubtless hoping that he will be among the all-rounders considered during the England selection meeting this weekend, ensured there would be no upset at Grace Road, taking five for 19 as Staffordshire were dismissed for 189, and Kent disposed of Cambridgeshire with minimal fuss at Canterbury.

Wood, the Yorkshire No 3, prepares to face MacGill, the Devon leg spinner, during his innings of 25 at Exmouth



Wood, the Yorkshire No 3, prepares to face MacGill, the Devon leg spinner, during his innings of 25 at Exmouth

Mushtaq in command performance

BY SIMON WILDE
TAUNTON (Somerset beat Holland by ten wickets)

IF HOLLAND are to be a cricketing force, they may need to improve their relations with the rain gods. The heavens opened at some inconvenient times in Malaysia during the feeder tournament for next year's World Cup - they were eliminated when they lost two matches on scoring rate that they might have won had play continued - and did so again yesterday morning, after which batting first on a desperately slow pitch was a thankless task.

The toss was crucial and, by losing it, Holland were condemned to labour under overcast skies against an attack ridiculously over-qualified for the task of stifling them. Bradley and Zuidert, the opening pair, spent 13 overs agonisingly raising the total to double figures and, by the time Bradley, a New Zealand-born golf coach, was third out for 31 - easily the top score of the innings - half the allotted overs had been consumed in compiling a paltry 54 for three.

Though the pitch dried as the skies cleared, there was no Dutch recovery and so swift was their demise that a start delayed by almost four hours was soon no longer a threat to a one-day finish. Holland were dismissed for 117 with more than ten overs of their innings unused, a total that was quickly dwarfed by robust hitting from Michael Burns, who struck 84 off 62 balls as he and Piran Holloway carried Somerset home with indecent haste.

A match that began at 2.15pm was thus complete 4½ hours later and, had

Yorkshire make most of dry run

EXMOUTH (Devon won toss): Yorkshire beat Devon by nine wickets

ON A ground a pretty as a picture and on a day that, against seemingly insuperable odds, became a lovely one for cricket, the only disappointment was the game. Surprisingly permitted by Peter Roebuck, the Devon captain, to bowl first, Yorkshire required only 48.5 overs to win by nine wickets, having spent 126 minutes bowling Devon out for 80 and 69 minutes knocking off the runs.

In the context of how hard it rained for three hours in the morning, however, it was remarkable that there was any play at all. On the long slope down to Exmouth, visibility was down to 100 yards ten miles from a ground shielded from the sea only by sand dunes and weather-beaten trees. Yet so fast did a sharp on-shore breeze combine with

sunshine and a sandy subsoil to dry it that within 40 minutes of the rain stopping they were playing. It was the pace that the ground dried that fooled Roebuck. "I thought the ball would be wet and the pitch dry and I also knew that no minor county has beaten a first-class county batting second in a 60-over match. As it turned out, the pitch was damp and the ball dry, so I'd suppose I'd have to say it might have been a slight miss-read!"

Devon might still have reached a score that would have given the 1,500 spectators two or three more hours of entertainment but for the excellence of the Yorkshire four-

SCOREBOARD FROM EXMOUTH
DEVON: N R Graywood c Bailey b Hutchison 5, G T J Townsend c McGrath b Hutchison 8, N A Fordand bow b Hamilton 15, X A O Barratt c Byes b Hamilton 4, A J Pugh bow b Hutchison 4, P M Westbrook c Byes b Silverwood 2, M K Hele c Byes b Hamilton 2, K Donohue c Bailey b Silverwood 4, A C Cottam b Silverwood 0, S C G MacGill c Bailey b Silverwood 0, I E Bishop not out 1, Extras (D: 2, R: 4, W: 7, nb: 2) 15, Total (28.3 overs) 80, FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-26, 3-36, 4-43, 5-52, 6-56, 7-76, 8-78, 9-78

Nottinghamshire kept on a tight rein by Barwick

BY MICHAEL AUSTIN
COLWYN BAY (Minor Counties Wales won toss): Minor Counties Wales, with all wickets in hand, need 232 runs to beat Nottinghamshire
FEW minor counties teams field as fluently as Wales did yesterday and not many first-class counties face such zealous batting conditions in NatWest Trophy matches as those which confronted Nottinghamshire after a start delayed for almost five hours.

Hewson star of late show

BRISTOL (Northamptonshire won toss): Northamptonshire, with all wickets in hand, need 261 runs to beat Gloucestershire
AN OPENING stand of 99 by Hancock and Hewson helped Gloucestershire to make a decent fist of it yesterday, and they ended with a good enough score to defend today. Put in to bat on a slow pitch of unreliable bounce, after rain prevented a start until 3.30pm, they will feel that, if they bowl well and hold their catches, they can win.

Lewry's switch produces collapse by Lancashire

BY PAT GIBSON
OLD TRAFFORD (Sussex won toss): Sussex, with eight wickets in hand, need 300 runs to beat Lancashire
SUSSEX, who last season knocked out Lancashire, six-times winners of the competition, in the second round of the NatWest Trophy at Hove, were threatening to repeat the feat last night - only this time in the first round and on their own middle, too.



Cheshire fall. Essex march on.

Heavy losses are reported up and down the country in the NatWest Trophy. Defending champions Essex besieged rural Cheshire. Despite putting up a brave fight, the home guard lost ground. Essex now face stiff opposition in the Second Round while Cheshire face folk.

NatWest More than just a bank





Wimbledon championships: Men's second seed beaten as Spaniards make progress

Exit Rios with scowl firmly fixed into place

IT IS hard to play an entire tennis match as if you were wearing a dead rat for a necktie. In fact, Marcelo Rios is the only man I have ever seen pull it off. Treating triumph and disaster just the same is a fine thing to be able to do, but I have never seen anyone treat each of the two with wholehearted and undisturbed loathing.

SIMON BARNES



At Wimbledon

his talents. He went out in the quarter-final. Scowling. But he scowls when he wins, too. Perhaps it is entirely involuntary, like the Martina Hingis grin. Yet he looks like a man condemned to live his entire life in the blackest of black humour.

He scowls when he wins a point. He scowls when he loses one. He scowls when he gets a good call, scowls when he gets a bad one. He is not exactly a stoic: he is just in a bad temper

'Everything in the match pointed to trouble and trouble is what we got'

about everything. Nasty things make him cross; so do nice things. Larry Stefanki says that, underneath it all, he's a real nice guy, which is sweet of him, but then it's his job. Stefanki is his coach. Stefanki also says that Rios has the best touch on the ball he has seen since John McEnroe. Since Stefanki also coached McEnroe, so presumably he knows what he is talking about.



Clavet: winner in five sets

McEnroe is the most extraordinary tennis player I have seen. Rios is pretty close to being the second, though he has a long way to go before being half as good. But Rios can change the strings of his racket between two shots in a rally: he can play one shot with strings of spun steel, play the next with strings of cobweb.

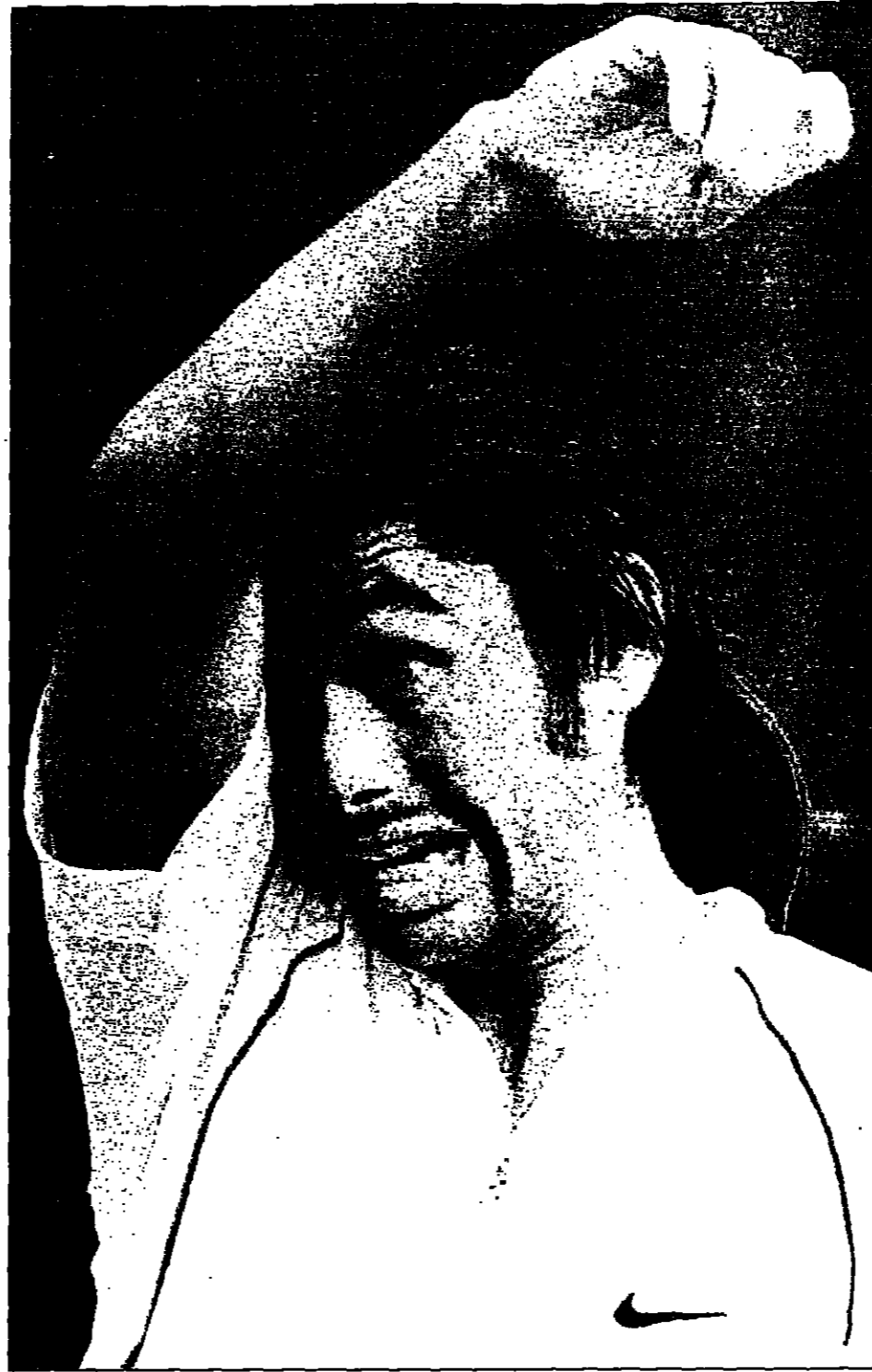
He has the very rare ability to disguise not only direction, but pace. With the all-round glories of his game, he can almost at will serve you tennis's equivalent of champagne. And then you lift your glass to quaff again and find you are drinking flat brown ale with a couple of fags stubbed out in it. But be brave: sip again and you find yourself sipping Bollinger.

At just about any point in this ridiculous match, you could make out a plausible case for neither player winning another game. This says nothing about the excellent Clavet, everything about Rios. Rios can play like a god in one minute, the next minute collapse like the England cricket team. That's a cruel thing to say about anybody, I know, but I'm like that.

Perhaps the scowl was something to do with the green stuff. Perhaps it was also the reason for the dead-rat necktie. In practice, Rios has been swearing at the stuff growing beneath his feet. No player who believes that he has a good excuse for losing has ever won anything. "I gotta learn," he said when discussing grass afterwards. What about giving Wimbledon a miss? "I say every year I will not come and every year I come. I need to have a better preparation."

Carefully led by press questioning, he agreed that Wimbledon was, well, over-rated, the organisation not so good. Will you stay and watch some tennis? "I think I gotta go." Given the choice, he would sooner watch the World Cup than Wimbledon. There's a lot more to be seen of this moody fellow, with his bad pony-tail and his air, yesterday, of being the bandit who tries to shoot Clint in the back and meets the inevitable hail of bullets. But remember Agassi, who hated grass so much he never came to Wimbledon, ended up winning the damn thing.

One more thing: never write off a man of real talent.



Wild-eyed Rios shows his frustration at being unable to justify his status

'Boring' grass mown down

By ALIX RAMSAY

MARCELO RIOS'S tennis at Wimbledon may not have created a stir, but his parting shot at the most prestigious tournament in the world certainly raised an eyebrow or two among the members of the All England Club. "I don't take Wimbledon or playing on grass as really an important thing," the Chilean said, having lost in five sets to Francisco Clavet.

"Tennis on grass is not tennis," he added, warning to his theme. "You just serve, return and go in—that's it. It's not a surface to play or watch tennis. It's boring. There are little things that are not good in this tournament: the organisation, the transportation and all those things. I'm just going to forget about what happened."

That is as maybe, but for the rest of the contenders—and there were 22 seeds on show

yesterday—they seemed very happy to be back at the All England Club. Quietly and with the minimum amount of fuss, they made their way into the next round. Even Goran Ivanisevic, who in recent months has been better known for falling at the first hurdle, seemed to be at peace with himself and his surroundings as he walked past Grant Stafford 6-3, 6-3, 6-2.

His match had been delayed from Tuesday because of the rain and the extra 24 hours off had suited him fine. "I actually felt a little happy, one more day here," he said. "I'm feeling better, much happier and I have a desire to play and practise. I feel inside that it's coming back, it's just a question of time. Anything is possible." Rather more important to him, at the moment, is

the fate of Croatia in the World Cup and the possibility of playing England in the next round. Cedric Pioline did everything in his power to stay for another day or so, but could not remove the enormous obstacle standing in his way. The tall Marc Rosset—all 6ft 7in of him—kept last year's finalist on court for nearly four hours before beating him 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 7-6, 13-11.

Steffi Graf looked as if she had never been away from the place as she skipped through her second round match with Henrieta Nagyova 6-0, 6-4 and Monica Seles was similarly untroubled by Alexandra Fusai, of France, winning 6-1, 6-1. For a real trip down memory lane, Jennifer Capriati marked her return to Wimbledon—her first since 1993—by beating Nicole Pratt 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

Moya anxious not to look green on grass

By ALIX RAMSAY

NOW here is a thing—a French Open champion, a Spanish one at that, playing at Wimbledon. More, winning at Wimbledon. At times, it was touch and go and there was a distinct feeling that losing at the All England Club may not have hurt too much, but by that time, the moment is lost. He was caught time and again on the service line as he headed for the net while the ball flew past his knees in the opposite direction.

Coming from India, Bhupathi is at home on grass and, as a qualifier, already had a handful of matches under his belt before the show-down on No 2 Court yesterday. His ranking is a lowly No 523, but it is as a doubles player that he has made his money, teaming up with Leander Paes and winning four titles already this year. However, playing the No 5 seed in front of a crowd filled with young girls with rather more than tennis on their minds was too much.

started trying to find his way to the net. The problem for Moya is that his service action is designed to keep him firmly rooted on the baseline. Planting his left foot as he lands, he has to make the conscious decision to go forward, but, by that time, the moment is lost. He was caught time and again on the service line as he headed for the net while the ball flew past his knees in the opposite direction.

Spanish history dictates that those who do well on clay in Paris do not even contemplate a fortnight spent on that most English of surfaces played in that most English of clubs. When Sergi Bruguera won the French Open in 1993 and 1994, he was taken suddenly tired when it came to Wimbledon and failed to turn up. Alberto Berasategui, the man he beat in 1994, had much the same idea, but Moya comes from a different generation and, leading the Spanish assault on the rankings, he is determined to give both grass and serve-and-volley a go.



Moya: difficult start

Moya has a simple plan. He is not sure if it will work, but the idea is to win as many points as possible to try to close the gap between himself and Pete Sampras at the top of the rankings tree. At Wimbledon, there are lots of points just waiting to be won. He knows that he can win easily on clay and, with a few adjustments, win on hard courts. Grass is a new challenge, but one he is prepared to work at.

"On clay, everything is coming from inside," he said. "Here, I have to think about everything I do—how I serve, when do I go to the net—but I come here every year and I am getting used to the grass and I enjoy it more than I did two years ago. I know that if I stay on the baseline, I will not win. I have to serve and volley. I try not to let them play their game, I try to go to the net. I just want to improve. I don't know how much further I can go, but I will try."

Wearing shorts of ludicrous proportions, which, on a slightly shorter man, would have been classed as trousers, he did try for more than 2½ hours to reach the second round. It was not a bad effort, considering that he had spent the past six days in bed suffering from a stomach upset. He worked away at his returns and his groundstrokes, trying to find his timing on a ball that simply refused to bounce and, once the first set had been won, he

If Moya did not know quite what to do on grass, Bhupathi did not know quite what to do to win the match. Woefully inconsistent, he could break Moya with ease one moment and then double-fault himself to disaster the next. As the match wore on, Moya gradually looked a little happier with his lot. He is a nice chap and, if things did not go his way he sighed, shrugged his shoulders and tried again. Eventually, the backhands hit the target, the volleys became easier and, with a salute to his girlfriend, Raluca, he was home and dry.

It was only Moya's third win on grass and a place in the third round at Wimbledon is still uncharted territory, but with Hicham Arazi, another man more at home on the baseline of a slower court, standing in his way, anything is possible. If it all goes wrong, Moya will be back next year, and the year after, until he gets the hang of Wimbledon. That's the sort of chap he is.

Slazenger Tennis Balls advertisement. Includes text: 'FREE SLAZENGER TENNIS BALLS', 'Slazenger Hi-Vis Tennis Balls', 'Slazenger Wimbledon Hi-Vis Token 4', and contact information for Intersport.

Two Britons survive first round

By NICK SZCZEPANIK

LAST year, seven British men reached the Wimbledon second round and there was predictable talk of an imminent resurgence. One year on, only Tim Henman and Chris Wilkinson have survived the first round and, for all the talk of up-and-coming talent, Wilkinson, a distant No 156 in the world, is still the next best-ranked player after Henman.

All this despite considerable investment of Wimbledon profits in coaching and cosseting our best prospects and of Wimbledon wild cards in buoying the British rankings. Before anyone gets too carried away with Wilkinson's success, anything other than victory over Mark Knowles, of the Bahamas, ranked No 1122 in the world, would have been a shock. As it was, Wilkinson triumphed in straight sets, 7-5, 6-0, 6-1. Marc Rosset, of Switzerland, will provide a sterner test for him and, in any case, at the age of 28, Wilkinson hardly represents the future of the game on these shores.

Dissatisfaction with the situation is spreading inside and outside British tennis and

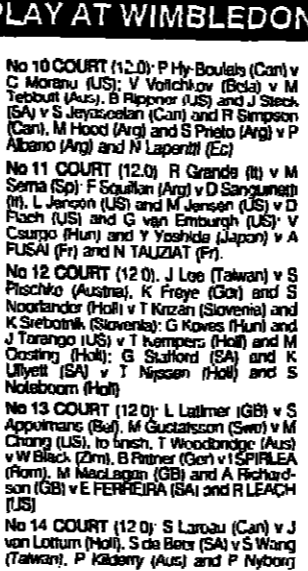
yesterday one of the players on whom the LTA has pinned its hopes bit back at the hand that has been feeding it. Andrew Richardson, the British No 4, who confirmed after his defeat in four sets by Hicham Arazi, of Morocco, that he will be taking an indefinite break from the game, had some harsh words for the British tennis establishment.

"People say British tennis is getting better, but I don't see it," he said. "I think we are in a worse position than in the last few years. I don't see anyone coming through. There have been small changes, but it hasn't improved enough. The proof is in the results." Despite a good 1997, which saw him reach the third round at Wimbledon, and his highest ranking, No 133, Richardson has never achieved the top 100 placing he seeks. "The LTA has always supported me, but I don't think it's always been the best help I could have had. I went to Bisham Abbey at 14 and it harmed me as a person and I don't think the tennis

side was good enough either. I've got pretty clear ideas on where things are going wrong and if anyone in the LTA wants to ask my opinion, I'll give it."

A grass-court tournament at Newport, Rhode Island, will be Richardson's last for some time. "I've reached the point where I don't have any belief that I can go any higher than I am," he said. "Was that his coaches' fault? It's all ifs and buts: I've got a lot of resentment and anger towards a lot of people who had anything to do with my career."

Richardson's words echoed those of Mark Petchey, who announced on Monday that he is considering outright retirement. "There are good coaches at the top level, but we need to change it in the schools," Petchey said.



Richardson: harsh words

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Table of tennis results from Wimbledon. Columns include Men's singles, Women's singles, and various court results with scores and player names.

TODAY'S ORDER OF PLAY AT WIMBLEDON

Table of the day's tennis schedule. Columns include Centre Court, No 1 Court, No 2 Court, No 3 Court, No 4 Court, No 5 Court, No 6 Court, No 7 Court, No 8 Court, No 9 Court, No 10 Court, No 11 Court, No 12 Court, No 13 Court, No 14 Court, and Courts to be arranged.

WORLD CUP 98

England could learn from Yugoslavia's handling of their own Michael Owen Old master puts his faith in youth

FROM ROB HUGHES IN LYONS

IF A country is to trust a favoured son as gifted and as ready as Michael Owen...

Owen has been granted just 22 minutes at the back end of England's two World Cup matches so far...

When you enter the Yugoslavia training base at St-Galmier, near St-Etienne...

"In any football situation," Boskov said, "the coach has to be superior. It is like this..."

No? Then do you remain silent if your coach, Slobodan Santrac, makes a misjudgment?

At that moment, Stankovic, 19, finished back-to-back television interviews. "Look at him," Boskov said.

nor so good a collective mentality.

Then, raising a fist, he exclaimed: "Now England! England has strength, it has graft. The spirit is together, but maybe for Owen..."

Maybe, but for Liverpool, Owen has progressed ahead of his time and the greater importance of winning...

Boskov is the man to ask. He coached Sampdoria for six years. Napoli for two, AS Roma for one...

"I have talked a lot with Gianluca Vialli, the Chelsea player-coach, matured under the wily Boskov at Sampdoria and is another to draw on his wisdom."

When Boskov turned to the contest in Nantes tonight, where Yugoslavia must defeat the United States...

By taking the load off his coach, making his time available for an endless round of multilingual interviews...



Stankovic's performances for Yugoslavia have belied his age and he has grown in stature during the World Cup

or suffer the consequences." By taking the load off his coach, making his time available for an endless round of multilingual interviews...

His club challenges are over and that he is content working with the Yugoslav federation and doing some FIFA lectures.

of wisdom between them. They sit on an executive committee, drawing also on the overseas experience of contemporary players such as Dragan Stokjovic...

perhaps so unwilling to share the burden and the possible praise, he might be a more relaxed man than he appears at this vital time.

Fifa will not put referees in picture

FIFA, the world governing body, said yesterday that it recognised that refereeing mistakes could have been made in the crucial group-deciding matches between Cameroon and Chile...

Keith Cooper, a Fifa spokesman, said: "Fifa remains of the opinion that until any kind of replay has been invented which proves beyond doubt what happens in a match, there is no point in contemplating it."

Cameroon continued to see the over the decision by Laszlo Vagner, the Hungarian referee, to disallow what looked to be a good goal that would have given them a 2-1 win and a place in the second round.

WORLD CUP DIARY

ITV scores own goal with Teletext survey

OWN goal or what? On page 188 of ITV's Teletext service yesterday, the result of one of its "Your Verdict" polls was revealed.

At least one person is sufficiently confident that Colombia will beat Colombia to put his money where his heart is.

Rigobert Song, of Cameroon, set an unhappy record when he was sent off against Chile on Tuesday. Given a red card in 1994 against Brazil when he was 17, he became the first player to be sent off in two World Cups as his country went out of the competition.

One absentee in Lyons yesterday for the match between France and Denmark was Roger Ebrard. He is the only known survivor of the first French cup final in 1918 between his team, Lyons, and Olympique de Pantin and was to have been a guest of honour at the World Cup game. He told the organisers he was too tired. This is scarcely surprising. He's 101.

More than half of those interviewed in a poll by German television believe their team should be sent home after the violence last weekend in Lens. Of the 19,937 people questioned, 53.3 per cent said that the three-times winners of the World Cup should pull out.

Striking the right balance on a tearful night in St-Etienne

TWO weeks ago, as the Scotland fans filed away from the Stade de France in St-Denis, a lone figure stood silently, yet proudly, in the torrential rain. Facially painted and dressed in Braveheart battle dress, he started defiantly into the distance, from his vantage point high on an overpass, and reflected on Scotland's gallant 2-1 defeat against Brazil, the world champions.

It was a poignant picture, a defining moment so early in the tournament that, sadly, was not captured on film. Had it been, it would have merited immediate and long-lasting inclusion in any World Cup montage - as will the many tearful scenes in the aftermath of Scotland's all-too-predictable 3-0 defeat against Morocco in St-Etienne.



coach, kicked a bench in frustration as he realised that Norway's last-gasp victory against Brazil had also eliminated his side: the Scotland players bowed their heads in bewilderment as their supporters wept openly; and, most gut-wrenching of all, the Morocco players' delight turned to despair as the implications of Norway's win sunk in.

could never match the earlier visuals, but Messrs Hansen, Hill and Ginola made a bold attempt. Scotland were not good enough, on the night or in the tournament, and nobody, thankfully, tried to mask over Craig Burley's awful foul on Salaheddine Bassir and his subsequent dismissal.

Hill then spoiled the overall effect with a crass attempt at applauding the BBC's technological dexterity, when it had briefly left the Morocco match to take in live Kjetil Rekdal's decisive penalty against Brazil. Hansen, quite rightly, poured scorn on the blatant brown-nosing.

Quick way to qualify for group therapy session

Lille, Rue de l'hopital militaire

I have formulated a theory. It explains why many potential fans of football are put off at an early stage. What happens is that, passing one day from the kitchen to the front door, they notice a first-round World Cup game on the television and are drawn towards it. They sit down. They take an interest, get comfy, perhaps even eat a slice of pizza. And then they make their big mistake.



"So if Spain win this game," they ask innocently, "they qualify for the next round?" At which point a dam bursts on a torrent of information, sweeping them off their feet and up the stairs. "Help, help," they cry. When the flood finally recedes, they are marooned on top of the wardrobe. After which, naturally enough, they climb down but never ask again. Instead, they take up simple self-explanatory interests. Such as astrophysics.

Should Paraguay beat Nigeria, on the other hand, Spain v Bulgaria will be a pointless match for third place. You see? You have to be fanatical to put up with this sort of thing. From time to time, I have tried to explain a few rules like this to my mum (the scoring system of the Ryder Cup was a good one) and I know how bonkers they sound from the way she just looks wise and beatific and says with infinite profundity: "If you say so" and "Oof, aren't you clever?" and "Rather you than me, anyway."

I was glad to discover that the last leg of the first round involves concurrent matches, because, about a week ago, I worked out that this would be the only fair system. Tomorrow, I will reinvent the lightbulb. The only trouble is that it makes watching the matches on telly rather problematical, as here in France you can't choose which of the simultaneous matches to watch live and which to catch up on later. Clearly, the second match will be a lot less interesting if you not only already know the score, but know the score's significance as well.

So it was a blow, on Tuesday night, to find I couldn't watch Scotland v Morocco. By flicking through the channels, I found I had Brazil v Norway in French, Brazil v Norway in Flemish, an incomprehensible studio discussion, global weather, or Brazil v Norway on Eurosport. It was at this point that I opened the minibar. How miserable, at this crucial stage, to be getting the news of

Scotland second-hand. Who gave a damn about Norway? "Visit Romania," a big banner said at the Toulouse match on Monday and the quality of their football tempted you to give it a try. The way that Norway have been playing, conversely, Oslo will be a ghost town from now on - and serve it jolly well right. But if they're showing only Norway, what can you do? "We've just heard Scotland are one down," the Eurosport man, said in professional deadpan as I opened the minibar again. "Scotland are two down now." "Great." I slurred, knocking back another miniature and attacking the two-quid packet of peanuts I'd been so heroically resisting. By the time that the third goal came, I was virtually in tears - but then Norway's ridiculous penalty in the 88th minute meant that all the effort in St-Etienne was so much wasted agony in any case. I mean to say, what a life.

All the way through Brazil v Norway, though, I was still checking the group in the paper. That's the point, really. I was still confused. "Morocco are doing Norway a favour," they'd say on the telly and a chasm of incomprehension would open at my feet. "Are they? Are they?" I'd grab the paper and do a worried calculation. "Oh right. OK." And then I'd get confused again. "But aren't Brazil doing Scotland a favour?" If any other aspect of life were operated in such a madly complicated manner, we'd all stay indoors and turn the lights off.

When Morocco went 2-0 up, you see, the Norwegian fans cheered. Why? Why were they cheering for Morocco? Did they think it didn't matter because they could beat Brazil? Good grief, hand me that group table yet again. Perhaps it's not to do with the football. Some Norwegians hold some sort of Nordic grudge against the Scots? When and what was the Herring War and is it forgotten? Or another possibility occurs: are they perhaps not cheering at all, but yelling in Norwegian: "Please help us, we have forgotten what possible favour Morocco can be doing us?"

So this is why people get put off football, in my opinion. They ask a simple question and the reply is prefaced with those baleful words: "Funny you should say that." It's a simple rule of life, actually. Whenever someone has to roll their sleeves up to answer your question, you really know you're in trouble.

LYNNE TRUSS

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WORLD CUP 98

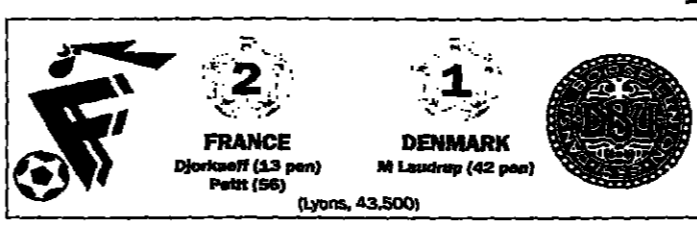
France demonstrate their depth of talent



Petit decisive strike

AS BEFITS a country that has just passed a bill to reduce the number of hours in the working week...

entertaining as anything witnessed in the tournament so far, packed with French flair and the romantic notion that winning mattered...



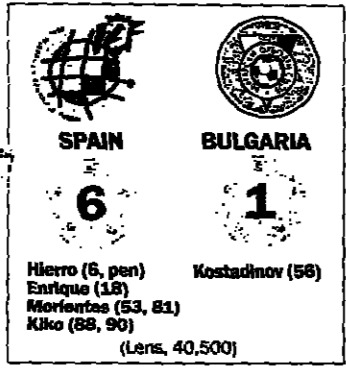
FROM DAVID POWELL

was high in spot-kick drama. The first two goals were penalties. The first for France, the second for Denmark...

drummed up a winning goal because he may reflect that he was partly to blame for allowing the penalty to arise...

though dropping a percentage point or two in entertainment value, brought forth enough chances to demand the fans' concentration...

Victory still ends in pain for Spain



FROM BRIAN GLANVILLE

SPAIN came dramatically and majestically to life, thrashing a Bulgaria team that was simply overrun in defence...



Luis Enrique, the scorer of Spain's second goal in the rout of Bulgaria in Lens last night, attempts an acrobatic volley

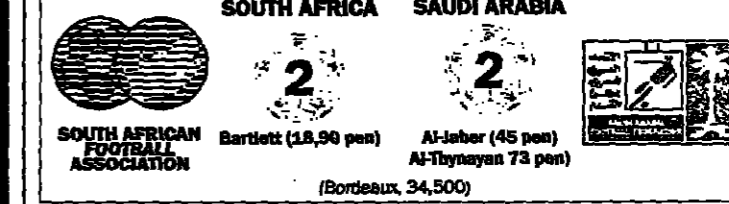
was going past a struggling Jordanov when the Bulgarian brought him down. Hierro performed the final execution and five minutes later the Spain fans were roaring their delight...

This was a revitalised Spain, playing much their best football of the tournament, evoking memories of their prowess in 1994...

In the United States. To give him credit, Javier Clemente, who was in charge in 1994, had packed his team here with gifted attackers...

Subsequently, Zubizarreta had to save from Borimirov and from a header by Kostadinov.

Troussier keeps his options open



FROM MATT DICKINSON

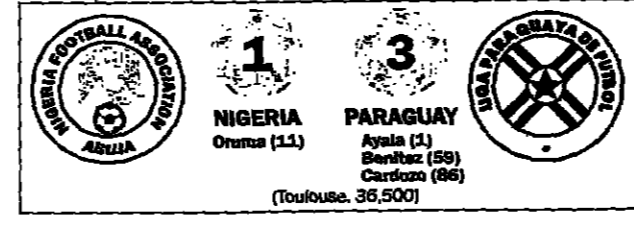
PHILIPPE TROUSSIER talks with a sternness and austerity that makes Christian Gross seem like a kindly kindergarten teacher...

There had been an expectation of exciting things from South Africa in their first World Cup, but a sense of anticlimax had pervaded their games...



Benitez, who scored for Paraguay, keeps Olisech at bay

Paraguay take their last chance



FROM KEVIN MCCARRA

PARAGUAY, with an indomitable spirit that was a match for every ordeal, beat Nigeria to defy all prognostications...

dependent on Nigeria at least avoiding defeat by Paraguay. Bora Milutinovic, the Nigerian coach, had enjoyed teasing Spanish journalists on that topic...

Paraguay goalkeeper is probably aghast at such moments of disappointment, so large is his personality and so considerable his admiration for his own abilities...

Nigeria looked as if they might topple entirely under the vigorous onslaught that culminated with the goal with which Paraguay once more took the lead...

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WORLD CUP 98

Statistics show we don't deserve pity

I have enjoyed the World Cup. That must sound a strange statement, coming from a Scotsman who has been sent off in a team that has just been knocked out of the tournament. Still, it is true. It could be stubbornness, but I was not prepared to be depressed about what happened to me in the 3-0 defeat by Morocco on Tuesday.

recall being suspended once. This World Cup has changed its nature as it has gone along. In our first game, with Brazil, there were fouls by both teams that would ensure a yellow or red card now, but the referee was understanding. All that ended once the authorities began reminding officials that they were supposed to be more strict.

'We let in too many soft goals'

If it is the case that rules are going to be applied in the same way in all countries, then the character of football will change. I know that in Scotland, the element of physical contact has always been part of the appeal and, if that is removed, I do not know if fans will be prepared to accept the games they see.

This World Cup has been ridiculous at times. Morten Wieghorst, my team-mate at Celtic, came on as a substitute for Denmark and lasted only three minutes before he was given his marching orders. Marc Rieper, another of the Celtic lads, scored for Denmark and, with my goal against Norway, there will be



a lot to talk about when we return for pre-season training. There is little to add about the match with Morocco. After I was sent off, I stayed in the dressing room and missed the last half-hour. Scotland failed to reach the standards we set against Brazil and Norway. There is not even the consolation of a hard luck story.

the earlier games, but we did not take enough from them. We could have had a draw with Brazil and we should have beaten Norway. Carrying four points, instead of one, into the game with Morocco would have produced an entirely different situation. That is not intended as any sort of excuse.

Since qualifying for the World Cup, we have conceded too many sloppy goals and we cannot afford that, because everyone knows that we do not score all that many ourselves. Morocco took the lead with a long ball over the top that sent Bassir through. That should be impossible and I do not think we ever get goals of our own as cheaply as that.

The reality is that we have played three matches and taken only one point, so nobody should feel sorry for us. Craig Brown, the manager, was low key in his reaction. We had played good football in the first two matches, everybody had worked hard and there was no disruptive behaviour. We did everything

we could, even if it was not enough.

The people I feel sympathy for are the Moroccans. They are out, but they deserved a place in the second round. On the evidence I have seen, Norway were the worst team in the group. Scotland dominated them for all but ten minutes and you could never have imagined them that they would beat Brazil.

Norway have perfected a style of play that grinds out results, even if it is not pretty. I would not be surprised if they sprang an upset and put Italy out of the competition on Saturday.

Of course, the rest of the tournament is academic for Scotland. We had a few beers when we got back to the hotel and some of the older players were sad because this was their last World Cup.

The rest of us cannot be sure that we will be back at the finals either, since there is no certainty that Scotland will qualify next time. That is one reason why I made sure that I enjoyed the past few weeks in France to the full.

'Worst in group are Norway'

Brown confronted by hard truth

Kevin McCarra believes that the Scotland manager has limited options

THE 3-0 defeat by Morocco had no immediate significance for Scotland, yet it cut them to the quick. Had the result been reversed, Craig Brown's team would have fallen short of the second round since Norway's contentious 2-1 victory over Brazil mocked all the sweet and hope that was being expended in St-Etienne. One might argue that it was as well for Scotland to be dlobbered.

How sad to be Morocco, to have produced such flashing play, to have seen the quicksilver Salaheddine Bassir score goals and still know that the plan for home must be boarded merely because a referee had granted Norway an unjust penalty kick with three minutes remaining. Experts in self-torment though they may be, Scotland have never encountered so baroque a form of anguish.

Conceding goals and losing Craig Burley, sent off for a tackle from behind when Morocco already led 2-0, was woe of the commonplace sort. All the same, the experience was bleak. Until Tuesday night,



Brown admits there were defensive failings against Morocco, but it is in attack that Scotland were found wanting

Scotland had taken pleasure in their displays at this World Cup and now that estimate has been made to look the silliest piece of vanity. The heavy defeat by Morocco obliges Brown and virtually every other Scot, supporter or

journalist, to reappraise the earlier matches in the tournament. In retrospect, the special pleading is seen to have been blatant. The tidiness in mid-field shown during the 2-1 loss to Brazil and the 1-1 draw with Norway was taken as proof of renaissance, as evidence that Scotland could exert sophisticated control.

Some attractive passes were struck, but it would have been better to brood over the goals that failed to result and, more surprisingly, those that were lost. The defence admired last year for its forbidding effectiveness has become riddled with hesitation and individual errors.

In ten qualifying matches for the World Cup, only three goals were conceded. Since then, Scotland have played

eight games, in which the opposition have scored on 12 occasions. After the humbling by Morocco, Brown attempted to salvage a little pride by blaming "uncharacteristic" mistakes in defence. Misjudgments were certainly present.

At the first two goals, the centre backs could not prevent Morocco forwards from fastening on to the ball and, in the second of them, Jim Leighton, the goalkeeper, pushed Hadda's shot up the into air and, unavailingly, had to move after the ball as it completed its lazy arc by dropping into the net. No reasonable person had the heart to denounce the men involved.

They have all served Scotland far too well for that. Brown, though, cannot

present the persistent loss of goals as a string of freak occurrences. When mishaps occur so regularly, they cease to be anomalies and begin, instead, to form a trend. It may well be that the manager is confident of restoring order, since he does have fresh avenues to explore.

Matt Elliott, the Leicester City centre half, has played only in friendly matches until now, but he could be given an opportunity to present his case in European championship qualifying games later this year. Even more importantly, Colin Calderwood will, by then, have recovered from the hand injury that prevented him from facing Morocco.

Leighton does not deserve to be dropped, but, if Brown does have an urge to experiment, he can call upon Neil Sullivan, of Wrexham.

It is in other areas of the side that the manager really senses their powerlessness. Although Kevin Gallacher and Gordon Durie played with great effort and self-sacrifice, neither forward ever appeared likely to score. Scotland are unable to call upon a man such as Bassir, who can regularly produce the elan that saw him whip home a vicious shot from a tight angle for the opening goal.

Brown has few players to pick from in attack. The only contention at the naming of his squad for the World Cup lay in the exclusion of Ally McCole, but the Rangers striker is 35. There are no swaggering youths to send the established order of the Scotland party crashing.

Brown had not seen his side concede so many goals since they lost 3-1 to Italy in 1993, when he was only caretaker manager. It may be some time before he is obliged to witness such vulnerability again, but the mission of reversing a general decline will be far harder to complete. In group A, Brazil, Norway and Morocco all hold positions in the top 15 in the world. Scotland are placed at No 41.

Those much-criticised Fifa rankings were vindicated on Tuesday. After the defeat, the supporters sang raucously, but proud defiance is a stance required so often that it has become a ritual for the people who follow Scotland.



Triumph in victory soon turns to despair for Morocco

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THURSDAY JUNE 25 1998

British No 1 in acrimonious split with Pickard after injury forces him out of Wimbledon

## Rusedski parts company with coach

By JULIAN MUSCAT  
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THERE have been two influences governing Greg Rusedski's life in the past fortnight. Only one survives after Tony Pickard, Rusedski's coach of nine months, walked out on him soon after injury forced the player to withdraw from the Wimbledon championships yesterday.

Pickard's departure added insult to the injury that prevented Rusedski from completing his first-round match with Mark Draper, of Australia. The former Great Britain Davis Cup captain maintained that Rusedski "should not have played" at Wimbledon after a heavy fall 12 days ago left him with a badly strained ligament in his left ankle.

Rusedski, however, heeded



Rios beaten 50  
Britons faker 50  
Results 50

the advice of Reza Daneshmand, his physiotherapist, who, according to Pickard, told Rusedski that he would be ready to compete. "From my experience, I knew that was almost a no-no," Pickard, 63, said yesterday. "I think the whole world tragically saw that. Somebody told Greg that he would be ready to play and he probably grasped at something that really shouldn't have been put there."

Frictions within the Rusedski camp could be gauged from the distance between the two factions as Rusedski limped onto No 1 Court on Tuesday afternoon. Pickard and Steve Green, Rusedski's physical trainer, sat in one corner of the court, while Daneshmand, an Iranian holistic practitioner



Henman focuses on a forehand return during his hard-fought victory over Nainkin, a qualifier from South Africa, in the second round on Centre Court yesterday. Photograph: Pascal Pavan

attached to the exclusive Harbour Club in Chelsea — was ensconced with Lucy Connor, Rusedski's girlfriend, in the other. They could hardly have sat farther apart.

"There was a total breakdown in communication," he said. "I had no idea where he was and unless there is complete trust, it stops working. We have had trust, but it seemed to go out of the window."

Rusedski also dismissed Pickard's influence over his rankings rise into the world's top five. The British No 1 employed Pickard after his controversial dismissal of Bri-

an Teacher, a California-based coach, in September last year. Rusedski sacked Teacher immediately after he had reached the US Open final, which remains his best result in grand-slam competition.

Rusedski has since advanced his ranking from No 10 to No 4, but he said yesterday: "I'm not worried. The player always makes it. The coach can help, but it is the player at the end of the day. Fair enough, he [Pickard] didn't like some of the decisions I made with my physiotherapy and the people around me, but just because I decide to give it a go does not give a person the reason to make that choice."

Despite his insistence that the ligament had fully healed, there is no doubt that Rusedski, seeded No 4 here, was far from fit when he opened his match against Draper. "I think everybody saw it," Pickard said. "He ran once and the rest of the time he just served and walked. I think he made the decision himself last week that he was going to play, and he just got stubborn."

Rusedski defended his decision to start a tournament for which he was initially quoted among the favourites. He was plainly desperate to break a 62-year gap since Fred Perry lifted the trophy for Britain. "I had to satisfy myself and to

give back to the public who have supported me," he said. "It just felt good to be out there, to accomplish my goal. I was hoping for last year's rain, but this wasn't my best chance of winning Wimbledon. I've got five more years of best chances but Wimbledon only comes around once a year. I thought I had a good chance to win the title. I would have been gutted if I hadn't stepped on to the court and at least given it a go. I don't regret it in the least."

Rusedski is to take a month away from the game before returning in Washington, five weeks before the US Open, where a prolonged run is imperative if he is to defend

his world ranking, which is certain to suffer after his early exit here.

Tim Henman averted a totally disastrous day for British interests when he survived another bout of hesitancy to dispatch David Nainkin, a qualifier from South Africa, in four sets. Once again, Henman, the No 12 seed, forfeited a promising position to drop the second set as Nainkin, ranked No 234 in the world, levelled the match.

The British No 2 felt that he had progressed after his first-round scare, when he was taken the distance by another lowly-ranked opponent in Jiri Novak. "I was in a bad situation at 4-2 down in the

third set," Henman said. "But my concentration was much higher this time and it brought me through."

Henman's 6-3, 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 victory ensures that he will now corner the nation's attention in his efforts to progress beyond the quarter-final stage. His progress has been laboured, but Rusedski, for one, believes that better times may lie ahead. "I think Tim feels a little bit of pressure at the moment," Rusedski said. "If he can get out of these first few matches and into some tougher ones, he can feel free and flow again." How Rusedski would have loved to hear others say that about him.

**TIMES TWO CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

- No 1441**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Tack: prompt payment, on it (4)
  - 3 Admin assistant officer (8)
  - 9 Essential (5)
  - 10 Shoe repairer: an iceed drink (7)
  - 11 To a large extent (7)
  - 12 An assistant; give eye signal (4)
  - 14 Roof material: thick hair (6)
  - 16 Hatful (6)
  - 18 Scorch, brand (4)
  - 19 Bullfight horseman (7)
  - 22 Arousing strong feeling (7)
  - 23 Goodbye, Mr — with Everything (5)
- DOWN**
- 1 Find the route (8)
  - 2 Suffering together (2,3,4,4)
  - 4 Metrical foot, tum-ti-ti (6)
  - 5 (Head bloodied but) erect (7)
  - 6 In due course (3,2,4,4)
  - 7 Mountain pool (4)
  - 8 Strip (in eg blind) (4)
  - 13 Strong-coffee method (8)
  - 15 Joined-up (writing) (7)
  - 17 Optimistic (6)
  - 20 Bird: set (gun) ready to fire (4)
  - 21 Charity event: to entertain lavishly (4)

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## Adams urges supporters to look at Owen from the inside

TONY ADAMS was getting into the spirit of the thing yesterday. He mooted the possibility of playing Michael Owen at centre half, he said he thought Michael Owen would make a fine overlapping right back. "He could use his pace there," he said. Then, he warned to his theme, "Make him captain," he said. "Let's have him for president."

The Owen bandwagon is rolling now, hurtling towards Lens and the showdown with Colombia on Friday night that will decide whether England qualify for the second round of the World Cup. Glenn Hoddle is standing uncertainly at the reins, aware of the clamour for the Boy Wonder to start the match but still in a quandary over whether to ditch Teddy Sheringham.

Once more, Owen, who scored the goal that so nearly rescued England against Romania on Monday after he had come on as a late substitute, was the talk of the England training camp here. Sol Campbell spoke about how hard it was to defend against him. Steve McNamara talked about the joy of playing with such a deadly finisher at Liverpool.

Hoddle, the England coach, was not available to the media yesterday and decreed that Owen should not be either. He will tell the players the composition of the team some time today and there will be widespread dismay if Owen's name does not figure in it. Adams, though, after the joking had stopped, was keen to counsel a little caution.

FROM OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT  
IN LA BAULE

"Michael certainly appears very cool and collected," Adams said, "but you only see exteriors at times, don't you. You have to be careful. You don't know what the boy's like inside. At the moment, he is handling everything very well. He has not been around you for 15 years, so that helps. I'm sure there will come a time when he is not in favour."

"But when someone comes on with that enthusiasm and that pace, it is a natural reaction for the crowd to be excited. People want him on all the time and, of course, I can understand that. I feel that if players are good enough it does not matter what age they are."

"But everybody else has their qualities too. That is why it is a team and not an individual thing. You could have 11 Michael Owens in the

team if that was what was required, but it is not what is required. I don't think he'd work as one of the back three, would he?"

If the majority of the interest swirling around the match against Colombia has centred on the Owen-Sheringham debate and the lack of service, especially from the flanks, to Alan Shearer, Adams also pointed out that the defence could not afford to make any more mistakes if England are to progress.

He admitted to giving Gary Neville a stern lecture during the 2-1 defeat by Romania on Monday night and said that Graeme Le Saux did not need telling that Dan Petrescu's clinching goal was the product of poor defending. He did not spare himself from criticism either, although he refuted suggestions that his failure to

sing the national anthem before the game in common with several of his team-mates, indicated a lack of passion.

"If I sung it at the top of my voice," Adams said, "and people said 'look at Tony Adams, isn't he magnificent', well sometimes that can be a mask. I and the rest of those players are passionate about their country and it hurts them badly that they conceded two sloppy goals. We have to take it a game at a time, but we know that if we make another mistake, we are all back home."

"At Arsenal, we pride ourselves on not giving teams goals. We do not give them gifts or leg-ups, we make them earn it with a good bit of skill, breaking you down, drawing you with something like a Gazza run, slipping someone else in, a good cross or a good header. Then, that is a good goal. When we make errors, we call it sloppy and we have to cut the sloppiness out with England, too."

"I feel as though I am growing into this tournament now. Hopefully, we will stay in the competition, so I can get even better. There is a real batch of games over this period and it is no good having extremes of good and bad. "You have got to play consistently well and make less errors than every other team because to be honest with you, if you make too many errors, you are going home. It is the team that makes the least errors that will probably end up winning it."



Adams and Campbell at the England camp yesterday

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**THE WORLD CUP TODAY page 52** <http://www.the-times.co.uk/worldcup>

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